

Wimbledon and Oval on 'risk' list • Inquiry covers violence • Brittan extends safety law to all league clubs

Every sports ground faces fire check

Colin Brown,
Local Reporter

Every sports ground in the country, from football pitches to local cricket teams, will be covered in the most comprehensive review of fire safety ever launched after the Bradford City football stadium fire which claimed 53 lives.

The Home Secretary, Mr. John Birt, announced yesterday that the Government will extend the 1975 Safety of Sports Grounds Act to the and fourth divisions of the Football League.

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and the death of a 15-year-old boy who was crushed under a wall after crowd violence at Birmingham City on Saturday.

MPs pressed the Government in the Commons yesterday to provide money to ensure greater ground safety. Several pointed out that the Bradford City stadium fire had cost the lives of 53 people.

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times being trapped at the locked exit gates.

The review of fire safety goes far beyond the requirements of the 1975 act, which was introduced mainly to prevent a recurrence of the 1982 Park disaster at Glasgow, when 66 fans were crushed to death.

In addition to the thousands of small grounds which will be visited to check on the fire hazard presented by wooden buildings, fire officers will also be calling at leading grounds not covered by the act, including the Oval, Lord's, and Wimbledon.

National stadiums, including Twickenham, Wembley, Cardiff Arms Park and Wrexham, are already designated under the act. But leading greyhound racing tracks and speedway tracks will also be inspected.

Fire officers using emergency powers under the act can recommend the closure of any public grounds because of the fire risks. The clubs can be forced to close their grounds by a court if it is satisfied that there are safety risks to the public.

Mr Brittan said the chief fire officers would also be inspecting the opening and locking of gates at sports grounds. He will be discussing with the football authorities immediately how the provisions of the act could be extended to the third and fourth divisions.

Mr Peter Snape, a director of fourth division Stockport County and Labour MP for West Bromwich, warned: "Unless government money is forthcoming, the third and fourth division clubs are doomed."

It was felt last night that the Prime Minister's personal involvement in combating soccer hooliganism will add to the pressures on the Government to find further money for improvements.

But one option likely to be considered is a change in the way the money is raised by the clubs. The money is raised by a levy on the clubs, which is then distributed to the Government.

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SURVIVORS: A young fan has facial burns treated (above) at Bradford's Royal Infirmary, and Mr David Huffer, aged 45, in bed at St Luke's Hospital, Bradford, where he is one of 47 people awaiting plastic surgery.



Club used warning letters to gain grant

By Malcolm Pithers and Sarah Bosely

The fire and general safety risks posed by Bradford City football club's decaying main stand were pointed out in two letters to it from the county council last July, it was revealed yesterday.

As another victim died in hospital, bringing the death toll to 53, and police confirmed that smoke bombs had been thrown during the match, copies of the warning letters were released by West Yorkshire County Council.

On July 11, Bradford City were told that the "existing main stand roof covering and the areas of decayed boarding create an unacceptable crowd-safety hazard and should be rectified as soon as possible."

The letter on July 15 said: "The timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette would give rise to a fire risk."

The second letter, from the council's executive director of engineering, was intended to assist the club in obtaining a grant towards the cost of replacing the roof of the main stand.

I wish to confirm the findings of that report; that the existing roof covering, and the areas of decayed boarding resulting, consequently, create an unacceptable crowd safety hazard, and should be rectified as soon as possible.

Extracts from the letters sent to Bradford on July 11 (above) and July 15

1. The timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular, there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette could give rise to a fire risk.

2. Egress from the grandstand should be achievable in 2.5 minutes.

Mr Richard Faulkner, secretary of the Football Trust, said last night that an application was received from the club, enclosing a letter dated July 11 from West Yorkshire County Council. The letter drew attention to the condition of the roof. There was also a letter of June 27 from the police which went into more detail about it.

As a result, the club was offered a 60 per cent grant, he said, in January, but did not reply. This did not necessarily mean lack of action, Mr Faulkner said.

The club wouldn't necessarily have to reply to the offer of a grant, he added. "They would have gone ahead with the work and claimed at the end of it."

Last night, despite evidence that the letters were sent, Bradford's chairman, Mr Stafford Heginbotham, insisted that he had not seen them.

After a meeting of the board of directors at the club he said: "I made available the correspondence file to the chief fire officer last night. I also took along the minute book of the company. No letter has been discussed and I have no further comment to make on that subject."

Mr Heginbotham maintains that he first saw the letters when the council produced them on Sunday. Last July, he said, the club's mail was being opened by an Official Receiver, appointed two years ago when the club went into liquidation.

Neither he, his vice-chairman nor the club secretary, to whom the letters were addressed, had seen them, he said.

He also denied that there had been a "goodwill" visit to the club by the fire brigade, as was stated on Sunday by West Yorkshire's chief fire officer, Mr Graham Karan.

He said he had no knowledge of a third letter sent by West Yorkshire County Council in April this year to arrange a meeting with fire chiefs.

Mr Heginbotham said the club had been in a "goodwill" visit to the club by the fire brigade, as was stated on Sunday by West Yorkshire's chief fire officer, Mr Graham Karan.

He said he had no knowledge of a third letter sent by West Yorkshire County Council in April this year to arrange a meeting with fire chiefs.

Officers from the fire brigade had been to look only at the new club building, completed last summer, he said. It had been there for two years and there was no correspondence on the files from them.

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Stampede for BAE shares

By Michael Smith,
Industrial Editor

Another stampede to cash in on a government sale of public assets was disclosed yesterday when the British Aerospace share offering was over-subscribed nearly 20 times.

Small savers and share traders submitted more than £1.58 billion of cheques in pursuit of only 250 million worth of British Aerospace shares freely available in the latest privatisation exercise.

City bankers and brokers worked flat out over the weekend sifting 264,000 separate applications for 790 million BAE shares. Only 40 million shares are available to them.

This is likely to arouse renewed fears among critics that the Government regularly sells public assets too cheaply.

But the Technology Minister, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, hailed the BAE sales as a further success and Mr Marcus Agius of the government bankers, Leasards Bros, said: "We are absolutely certain that we could not have got a higher price."

The complete sale of BAE shares — including those reserved for employees and financial institutions — will raise £383 million for the Government's 48 per cent holding in BAE. The company is using the £187 million taking the total shares sale worth £550 million.

In an attempt to avoid the over-subscription seen in last year's British Telecom privatisation 108 million of the 146 million shares for sale were earmarked for the major financial institutions or BAE shareholders and employees.

The small investors' terms allowed a down payment of 200p on the full 375p buying price.

As a result of the over-subscription, buyers will get only a fraction of the shares they wanted. Those applying for up to 300 shares will get 100 and, on the sliding scale of applications, worked out yesterday, those seeking up to 20,000 will get only 275.

But the successful applicants have been guaranteed a quick profit because BAE shares yesterday surged 18p to 486p, to stand an effective 61p higher than the 375p flotation price.

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New Lords setback on GLC bill

By John Carvel,
Political Correspondent

The House of Lords yesterday inflicted a fourth defeat on the Government during committee stage of the bill to abolish the GLC and the Metropolitan county councils.

The amendment introduced by the Bishop of London, the Right Reverend Graham Leonard, denied ministers' contingency plans for possible future dismemberment of the inner London Education Authority. The amendment was carried by 132 to 133.

But the opposition failed to press a vote on a further, more damaging amendment, which would have obliged ministers to submit to fresh legislation any future plans for "rewriting" the Education Act.

The Government has suffered a defeat in the Lords on each of the four days on which the abolition bill has so far been discussed in committee.

There had already changed important clauses concerning the future of waste and dis-

posal, highways and conservation, the seven big English conurbations. Although the Government has made it clear that it intends to restore its original proposals, either at report stage in the Lords or subsequently in the Commons, the sheer bulk of hostile amendments may increase problems of timetable to bring abolition into effect by April 1, 1988.

Yesterday's amendment related to the clause in the bill which placed a duty on the Education Secretary to review the operation of the Education Act.

The Bishop of London said that such a mandatory review, followed by further reviews after 1991, would be "demoralising and disruptive."

Under questioning, Lord Gower explained that the bill would empower the Government after such a review to transfer some or all of the London bor-

oughs without further primary legislation.

The amendment takes away the obligation on the Government to review the Act within five years, but still allows it the option to carry one out. A further amendment to make any transfer of powers subject to fresh primary legislation was lost, amid some confusion, when no vote was called.

A further amendment to create a single joint authority in each of the metropolitan counties to run the services for fire, police, transport and waste disposal, was defeated by the Government by 148 votes to 134.

If this had been passed the metropolitan counties believed that they would have gone at least halfway to restoring countywide authorities similar to the ones at present due for abolition. But after the defeat of the amendment, Lord Gower explained that the bill would empower the Government after such a review to transfer some or all of the London bor-

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Labour MP shatters Falklands accord

By a Falklands Correspondent

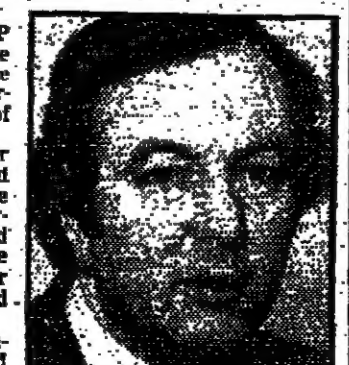
A row between a Labour MP and a Falkland Islander broke out at a lunch for Prince Andrew in Port Stanley yesterday to mark the opening of the island's new airport.

Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carrick, Cumbria and Don Valley, a member of the British delegation to the airport opening on Sunday had impugned the courage of the 1,800 islanders during the war in 1982 between Britain and Argentina.

In a reference to the Argentine mothers of "disappeared persons," he said: "The mad mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires had more guts than the Falkland Islanders."

Mrs Pat Luxton, wife of an island councillor, promptly smashed a water jug on the table in front of Mr Foulkes, bringing the lunch to an embarrassed silence.

Prince Andrew, had just left the room but the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine



George Foulkes — Islanders upset

stepped in and separated the two, taking Mr Foulkes aside for a talk.

Mr Foulkes, who opposes the government's "Fortress Falklands" policies, had already urged islanders with a broadcast radio comment that the airport opening was "a load of bocha."

Hit men called off but the rhetoric lingers on

From Michael White
in Washington

THE Reagan Administration was left looking embarrassed and ineffective yesterday after President Reagan's decision to call off the hit men.

In Lebanon last year, only to back off when a freelance bomb attack misfired.

According to a variety of sources in Congress, the media, and the bureaucracy here, President Reagan responded to the suicide bombing which killed 241 US troops at the American Embassy in Beirut in September 1983 by approving a CIA training programme for Lebanese groups capable of making their own "counter-terrorist" strikes — a move consistent with the Administration's public rhetoric in favour of "pre-emptive self-defence" against world-wide terrorism.

The outcome was a car bomb attack, apparently intended to kill a prominent Shiite suspect, Mr Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, which missed him but killed 80 and wounded 200 in Beirut in March.

With the CIA's primed the best, page 19

With the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, engaged in delicate peace negotiations in the region, the CIA yesterday responded to charges, originally made in Sunday's Washington Post, with a cautiously worded denial. It said that the agency had never conducted "any Lebanese security forces" in this connection, had "no foreknowledge of the counter-terrorist action" described, and had "scrupulously observed its legal obligations to inform leaders of congressional supervisory committees of its major activities."

Simon Inglis reports on the painful questions that 37 clubs must confront in the long term if they are to protect their supporters

The road to soccer safety is strewn with pitfalls

THE Home Secretary's decision yesterday to include third and fourth division grounds in the Safety of Sports Grounds Act is only the first step on a long and potentially difficult road. It represents no instant cure to the kind of problems which beset Bradford City.

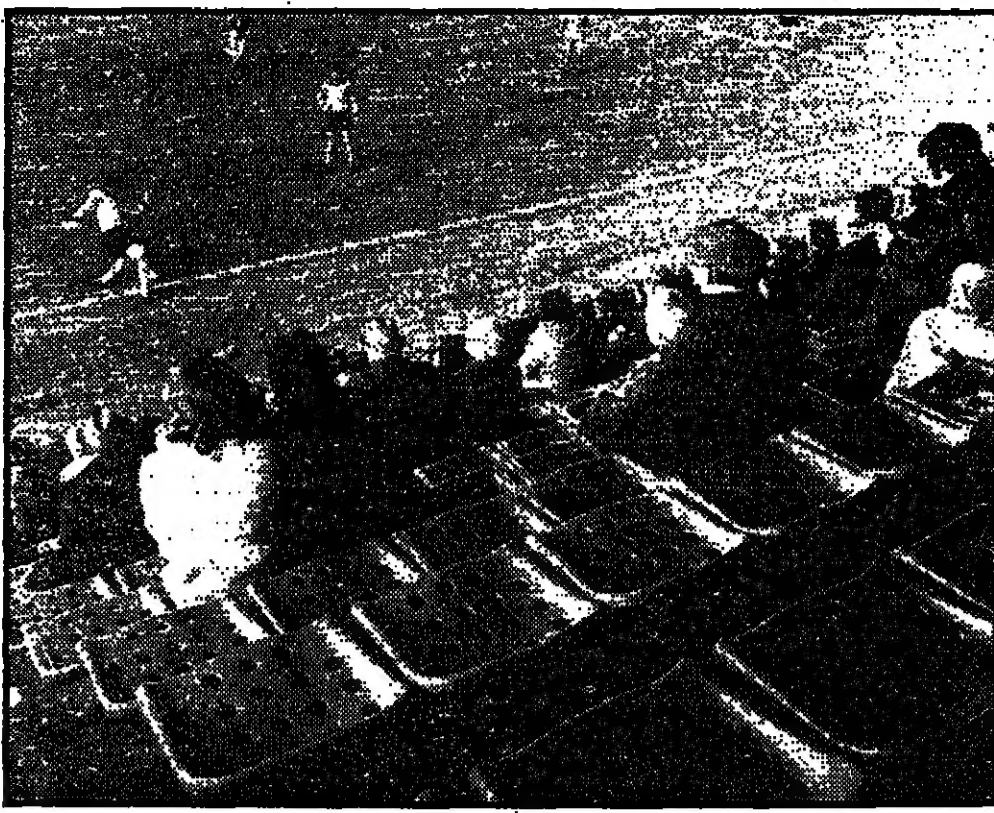
Thirty-seven league grounds are not designated and the other 11 lower division grounds are because the clubs have been in the first or second division since 1975, when the act was introduced. Each of the 37 must complete a varying degree of improvement work to fulfil the minimum standards laid down by the Home Office's green code of 1976.

Newly-designated clubs have been given 12 months in which to complete the safety work demanded by local authority inspectors. Bradford, for example, had planned to start renovation on their ill-fated stand yesterday and would have completed as much as possible by the beginning of next season.

If a safety inspector believes that a section of a ground is unsafe then this 12-month waiver is generally withdrawn. Some terracing at Chelsea has been roped off until the club can afford repairs.

The relationship between safety inspectors and clubs during improvement work is close. The inspectors are expected to take into consideration the "club's" special circumstances — physical rather than economic — and if certain improvements are absolutely necessary, clubs must comply. Only if they are especially hard done by can they appeal to the Home Secretary against any demands.

In the short term, the 37 clubs, at least 10 of which have mainly wooden stands, will have to review evacuation procedures. This is happening already and Greater London Council safety experts yesterday visited sev-



Wooden stands are closed as clubs make checks

THE shock waves of the Bradford fire spread through the whole Football League yesterday, with some third and fourth division clubs closing or thinking of closing their wooden stands.

Thirty-seven league clubs are not designated under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, as well as many small rugby league and union clubs.

The chairman of fourth division Aldershot, Mr David O'Connell, said that the club's 1,200-seat wooden stand would be closed off for the final game against Rochdale on Friday.

The directors of Torquay United met last night to consider closing their 400-seat stand at Breading, builders were called in yesterday to remove some of the bricks in

the low wall around the pitch and some rows of seats.

Bury, which has fencing around parts of its ground, is creating more fire exits. Its two stands can take up to 12,000 people.

Third division Brentford agreed to open two gates which are normally closed after a visit from Greater London Council officials.

Grimsby Town's main wooden stand has been fire-proofed as part of a £1 million ground improvement, but the club's managing director, Mr Tom Lindley, said that he would close it if that was the fire authorities' advice.

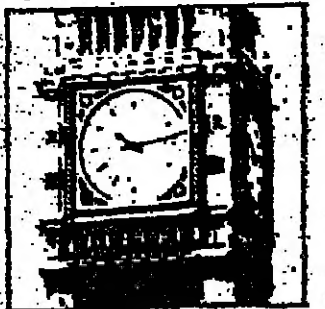
Luton, which recently put up fencing around parts of the ground, said it was confident that its two wooden stands were safe. "All exits stay open and manned and the gates at the front have

panic bars," a spokesman said.

Norwich City, whose wooden main stand was destroyed in a £2 million blaze last year, yesterday revealed the safety features which are being built into the replacement. Work is due to begin soon on the new three-tier stand, which will seat 3,500.

The club secretary, Mr Nigel Plessman, revealed that the entire stand will be built of concrete and steel. "All the seats will be fixed straight into concrete and, where possible, fire-resistant materials will be used — the only wood which will be used will be for the doors," he said.

"In addition, alarm panels in every section will be linked to a main control room. The builders will ensure that all gaps between floors and walls — where lighted paper or cigarettes could fall, will be filled in."



David McKie

No easy solutions to crowd control

MOST MPs, like the rest of us — some, perhaps, coming in from the football themselves on Saturday night — saw the TV pictures of the carnage at Valley Parade. If they found little new or memorable to say about them yesterday that was no surprise and even in one sense a mercy: for the most part, facts which spoke all too dreadfully for themselves were not dressed up, as they sometimes are on such occasions, in redundant rhetoric and striving for effect.

Rather fewer would have looked closely at the events which took place the same afternoon at St Andrew's ground at Birmingham, where a 16-year-old fan

Hambridge, from Northampton, was fatally hurt when a rioting crowd demolished a boundary wall. Visiting Leeds supporters had halted that match for half an hour after Birmingham took the lead. According to the shadow sports minister, Denis Howell, who was there, at least 1,500 people were on the pitch at one time; almost 100 policemen were injured. Had it not been for Valley Parade, St Andrew's might have been the focus of an anguished Commons examination yesterday.

The Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, who had the Prime Minister at his side throughout 50 minutes of exchanges yesterday, took the West from Labour MPs for bracketing these two events in his statement and in the terms of reference for the Poplewell inquiry. Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, said he did not come expecting to be contro-

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Council releases text of letters

Malcolm Pithers on the evidence of hazard warnings sent to the club

WEST Yorkshire County Council last night released copies of letters sent to Bradford City Football Club last July warning that the timber construction of its main stand was "a fire hazard."

Disclosing the text of the letters, the council leader, Mr John Gummell, said in London after a visit to the Home Office that he was doing so in the public interest and to avoid further speculation. He stressed that the county council would co-operate fully in a public inquiry.

He pointed out that recommendations made to the club in the two letters were not statutory because Bradford City were playing in the third division and therefore did not require a certificate under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act.

Mr Gummell said: "As is well known, the county council had initiated a meeting with the club which would have taken place this coming Wednesday and which would

The second letter, also to Mr Newman, was dated July 18, 1984. It read: "Further to my engineer's visit to your ground of July 4, 1984, I am pleased to enclose a letter which may assist you in obtaining a grant from the Sports Ground Trust, towards the cost of re-covering the main grandstand roof. Nothing in that letter should be construed as implied approval of the condition or structural adequacy of the stand."

"As the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council is the licensing authority under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, it may assist you to know what some of the council's other considerations would be, should at some time in the future the provisions of the act apply to Bradford City AFC ground."

"These are: 1) Main grandstand (a) the unusual construction of this stand makes an appraisal of structural adequacy desirable; (b) the timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular, there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette could give rise to a fire risk; (c) access from the grandstand should be achievable in 2.5 minutes."

2) Other stands (a) appraisal for structural adequacy and maintain to adequate corrosion-protection standards; (b) repair defective roof sheeting."

(3) Perimeter and crowd-control fences (a) repair and strengthen to acceptable standard."

(4) Crush barriers (a) test, strengthen and repair to acceptable standard; (b) lack of barriers reduces the safe spectator density on terraces."

(5) Terraces (a) overhaul terracing to provide acceptable surfacing and slope; (b) provide adequate exits from terracing."

"These considerations are contained within the publication 'Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds — Football', published by HMSO."

"In concluding, may I point out that the above considerations would form part of the statutory consultation process required under the provisions of the act. The county council is obliged by law to have regard to other considerations, eg: fire safety precautions (chief fire officer), crowd control supervision (chief constable) and local building control requirements (Bradford metropolitan district council)."

The club's chairman, Mr Stafford Heginbotham, was adamant last night that the two letters had not to his knowledge been received by the club which was then in receivership.



During Saturday's fire a policeman uses his helmet to shade his face from the intense heat that burned many victims

Doctors begin long-term burns treatment

Harold Jackson reports on the task of the Bradford medical teams led by David Sharpe, left

Mr David Earl, an off-duty policeman who was watching the match, with his two young sons, was typical of the less serious cases. In the panic after escaping from the stand he spent a frantic 45 minutes searching for David and Jonathan, aged nine and seven, unaware of his own injuries.

Only when the boys had been found safe at the local police station did he become conscious of his badly burned scalp and hand. Mr Jack Hodgson, aged 63, spent an equal time running round the pitch looking for his wife, having lost his shoes and spectacles in the panic. The couple were being treated for burns and abrasions sustained as Mrs Hodgson climbed over a 5ft wall to get away from the heat.

Most of the victims were

Survivors were comforted and given immediate help. Many were able to telephone their families from Asian homes to reassure them that they were unhurt.

As one victim commented yesterday: "It only goes to show that race and colour go out of the window in a case like this. All that matters is humanity."

Match replay

By our Sports Staff

Bradford City's Third Division match against Lincoln City, abandoned on Saturday, will be replayed next Sunday at Odsal Stadium, home of Bradford Northern Rugby League club.

All match proceeds are to be donated to Bradford City Council's Disaster Fund. If Bradford score twice they will qualify for a £4,500 award from Canon, the Football League's sponsors, as the division's top scorers.

Lincoln City striker, Gordon Hobson, yesterday warned that he and the rest of his team would consider taking union action if the Football League forced them to replay their match with Bradford City.

Hobson said: "We don't really want it to be replayed because we feel it's too early. The feelings are still so strong at the moment and people could still be dying in hospital while the game was being played. "If the people of Bradford and Bradford City wanted us to play then it would be different



Mr John Gummell: full cooperation promised

have discussed those changes needed to comply with the act as a second division club. I understand that the normal procedure is that clubs are given 12 months within which to comply."

The first letter sent to Mr Terence Newman, the club secretary, was dated July 11, 1984. It was sent by Mr P. A. Sims, the executive director of engineering for the council. It read: "Safety in sports grounds, Bradford City AFC re-covering of west grandstand. I refer to my engineer's visit to your ground on July 4, 1984 and a copy of the inspection report, by Trade, of the west grandstand roof covering passed to him."

"I wish to confirm the findings of that report, that the existing felt roof covering and the areas of decayed boarding resulting consequently create an unacceptable crowd safety hazard and should be rectified as soon as possible."

THE MEDICAL reconstruction work started in earnest at Bradford's hospitals yesterday, after the make do and mend of Saturday night.

At St Luke's, three surgical theatres were working throughout the day and by last night the team of doctors, led by Mr David Sharpe, had completed 20 major skin graft operations.

"I have never seen burns on this scale before," Mr Sharpe said. "It is a vast number."

The hospital's two staff plastic surgeons were augmented by six others, brought in from Leeds, Newcastle and Wythenshawe. A further three surgeons were on standby.

The administrator of the Royal Infirmary, Mr Mitchell Grant, said last night: "The disaster hit us almost without warning. Normally, you expect to get up to half an hour's alert of a major incident."



Luke's for major reconstructive surgery. By the end of the day St Luke's had admitted 65 serious cases. Others will arrive later in the week. An official said that many of them would have to remain under full-time treatment for months and that a number would require expensive further surgery.

Doctors said that some will inevitably be disfigured for life.

By mid-afternoon 88 of the victims had crowded into the hastily erected cubicles for full examination and treatment.

The infirmary's medical team transferred 23 of the most serious cases to St

seven, were being comforted by relatives at their home in Denholme, near Bradford.

Plans by the city's education department to help schoolchildren and adults to come to terms with their bereavement were being prepared by education advisers yesterday.

Mr Knight said: "It could be transpired to help people in hospital; it could be money. We are trying to assess what the immediate needs are."



SOUNDING OFF: The brass section of The Manchester Camerata plays a musical lament on top of a London bus ahead of today's Lords debate on the fate of the arts when metropolitan county councils are abolished. Campaigners claim that this will threaten hundreds of musicians, artists, actors and dancers forced to compete for grants from under-funded district councils. Picture by Martin Argles

Illegal nuclear protests 'certain'

Opponents of nuclear power and weapons in Britain would be increasingly driven to break the law in furtherance of their protests, an environmental leader said yesterday.

Acts of lawlessness were "quite appropriate" and inevitable if the government continued to ignore growing anti-nuclear feeling, said Mr. Paul Elkins, of the Ecology Party.

He warned of increasing conflict, similar to scenes at Greenham Common, where "peace-loving, non-violent citizens" clashed with authority.

Mr. Elkins made his remarks at the London launch of the party's Nuclear-Free UK campaign and a booklet which argues against a nuclear Britain and offers alternatives.

The booklet claims that nuclear power causes pollution, danger and health risks, and is becoming ever more expensive. It argues that nuclear weapons have damaged the earth, sea and atmosphere and make Britain an easy target.

The campaign team plan to travel 2,000 miles to stage exhibitions and talks at Canterbury, Havering, east London, Dorchester, Bristol, Plymouth, Exeter, Southport, Leeds, Chesterfield and Bedford.

Enhanced roles in education, health, and money matters

Burden of care made easier for foster parents

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Foster parents and step-parents are to be able to apply for new legal rights to look after children in their care, under legislation coming into force from December. Mr. John Patten, the social services minister announced the move yesterday.

The new right — to be known as custodianship — will be a half-way house between fostering and adoption but will give foster parents most of the rights enjoyed by natural parents.

The changes were originally granted by Dr. David Owen when he was Labour health minister in 1975 but have not been implemented.

They will make it much easier for foster parents who have looked after children for more than three years and for step-parents to assume full responsibility for their children.

The powers which step-parents and foster parents will gain include choosing a child's school, obtaining medical treatment, and opening medical bank and

post office accounts. In the case of foster children these powers are held by social services.

The new custodianship rules will not take away the right of natural parents to see their children which would be lost if an adoption order were granted. Custodianship will also curb the role of social services departments in long-term fostering, since the foster parents will be able to assume powers now held by the department.

Application for a custodianship order will be simple — with magistrates and county courts expected to hear most of the cases.

Mr. Tony Hall, director of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, said yesterday: "We welcomed the change although we view the future with some trepidation as it is not clear whether one effect of the new law will be to reduce the number of adoptions because courts might prefer to grant custodianship orders."

Plan for greenbelt towns opposed

By Susan Tibbitt

Strong opposition to plans for 15 new country towns in the South-east, proposed by a consortium of leading house-builders, was voiced yesterday at a conference at the Royal Town Planning Institute in London.

The opposition came from representatives of Serplan, the planning conference of local planning authorities in the South-east, the Greater London Council and Manchester County Council.

The RPI organised the one-day conference to take soundings on the proposal for 15 small towns put forward by Consortium Developments, which comprises the 10 biggest house-building companies in Britain.

One proposed site for a town of 12,000 people, Tillingham Hall, near Thurrock in the Essex green belt, was announced last week. Two more, one of them in Hampshire, are expected to be announced by the end of the year by the Consortium.

Mr. George Nicholson, chairman of Serplan policy committee and GLC's planning committee, said: "We are convinced our figures show there is no need for this development."

"There is enough land in London to build the houses that need to be built to the end of the century," Mr. Nicholson suggested the London docklands area as one such site.

"We will not stand idly back and allow this scheme to go ahead. We have been misled in the past by the scientists and professionals."

Mr. Chris Shepley, deputy planning officer of Greater Manchester council, said that growth in the South was creating a pretty uncivilised way of life. The balance should be redressed by developing the other regions.

"Anybody can have a glamorous and profitable time building trendy new villages in the leafy Essex green belt, but as far as your average long-term unemployed, increasingly bitter and resentful northern inner city teenager is concerned, they may as well be on the moon," he said.

Consortium figures forecast a major housing crisis in the South-east, based on the assumption of a growth of 720,000 new households between 1981 and 1991.

Wilmslow's well-heeled bring credit to the town

By Tom Sharratt

AMID a fanfare of PR razzmatazz Wilmslow, Manchester's affluent commuter town, revealed itself yesterday as the first town in the country to have its own credit card.

The Wilmslow Card is a cheeky bit of self-promotion for a town of little more than 30,000 people, well-heeled though they may be. It is a charge card which will allow shoppers to put purchases on account and which the local chamber of trade hopes will confine more common pieces of plastic like Access and Barclaycard to the dustbin of history, in Wilmslow at least.

The scheme will be launched in September on a market of a quarter of a million potential customers over a wide area from Manchester to Stoke on Trent.

Cardholders, who may live anywhere so long as they shop in Wilmslow, will be able to set their own credit limit up to £1,500; traders taking part are confined to the town and the chamber hopes that at least 90 per cent of the shops will join in. They will have to, if the scheme is to work.

The project is the brainchild of Mr. Paul Robinson, the chamber's president. The idea, he said yesterday, is that shoppers will be able to use the Wilmslow Card for a much wider range of goods and services than is available with an ordinary card. If all goes well, there will be free parking, and special offers for cardholders too.

The scheme will be operated and financed for the chamber by Credit and Data Marketing Services, part of the Littlewoods organisation.

Exactly how many Wilmslow Cards will be issued initially is a secret, but Mr. Robinson is confident that the target figure will be comfortably exceeded.

If local cards are the coming thing, Wilmslow is no bad place to start as a commuter community of Tories and Alliance supporters with money to spare.

Other towns may profitably take up the idea — especially in the wealthy South-east — but there are no plans for a gold Wilmslow Card. Not yet, anyway.

Hurd rules out talks on UDR with Irish

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr. Douglas Hurd, yesterday rejected suggestions that the future of the Protestant-dominated Ulster Defence Regiment would be open to negotiation in Anglo-Irish talks on the future of the province.

Speaking in Belfast, Mr. Hurd said that the 6,600-strong force was an indispensable part of the security system and was here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Hurd was replying to comments made last week by the Irish prime minister, Dr. Garret FitzGerald, who told a New York audience: "I have talked to committed nationalists in Northern Ireland who say that two-thirds of the force is all right, but one third is very dangerous indeed."

"They are in some part, a very dangerous force," as their motto does not lie with the British Crown. It would be surprising if, in the context of Anglo-Irish discussions, the question of the UDR did not

arise because of our concern about them."

Mr. Hurd said yesterday: "The responsibility for the security of the province rests with Her Majesty's Government. The UDR is an indispensable part of that and the Irish government knows it. The future of the UDR is not a matter for negotiation."

The UDR, which is 97 per cent Protestant, is a regiment of the British army but serves only in Northern Ireland, where all its members must live.

Unionists point out that 149 UDR men and women have been killed since 1971 and argue that in some areas, particularly near the border, it is the most significant factor in keeping the paramilitaries at bay. Many nationalists, however, believe that the regiment is rotten beyond reform. Its name has been tarnished in a series of recent court cases where members have been convicted of criminal offences and linked to illegal Protestant para military organisations.

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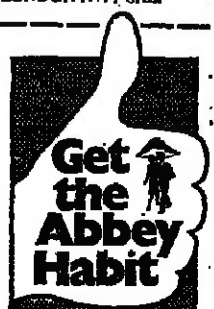
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Ministers will break word if Serps are abolished

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, could have broken a pledge he gave to Parliament if the Government's green paper contains proposals to abolish the state earnings-related pension scheme, according to a House of Commons library research paper circulated to MPs.

The paper says successive answers by Conservative ministers to MPs since 1981 "do constitute a pledge to maintain the value of the earnings-related pension at least for the 1979-83 and 1983-85 parliaments."

The paper says that assurances on the pension scheme have been given by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor; Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary; Mrs Lynda Chalker, the junior transport minister; and in a letter to Age Concern by Dr Rhodes Boyson, now the Northern Ireland minister.

The paper is one of a series produced by researchers at the House of Commons library. Mr Fowler is said to have given the most specific pledge to MPs on November 23 last year, when he set up the retirement inquiry which has now led to the impending green paper.

He said: "My aim in setting up an inquiry is not to call into question the fundamental pensions structure that was established in the 1970s with all-party agreement and to which I was a party."

"Rather, it is to ensure that our pensions structure is soundly based, that it is fair between contributors and beneficiaries as well as between all scheme members and that it continues to command the support of the community as a whole."

The paper also shows that Mr Fowler and Mr Kenneth Clarke, the health minister, also supported the creation of the state earnings-related pension scheme in 1975 when the bill was before Parliament. Neither of them voted against the bill.

Mr Clarke told MPs on March 18, 1975: "We desire a political truce and an end to pension battles being used as a political football... In committee we shall have a genuine desire to try to improve the bill so that the resulting measure is one of which the Government can be proud and which the Conservative Party, when it returns to office, can accept as a bipartisan basis for a future pensions policy."

Both expressed concern about the cost but Mr Fowler concluded: "The CBI says that employers are anxious for a firm, long-term basis for pensions, agreed by all parties, as soon as possible."

The CBI think that the structure of the bill could provide an acceptable and workable basis. We are prepared to accept that advice."

Lord Ennals, Labour's former social services secretary, has published a letter to the Prime Minister warning her that ending the state earnings-related pension scheme would be "a betrayal of the interests of millions of pensioners."

He asks whether it is her aim to reduce the level of pensions for those who retire in the next 15 years, and what new evidence has cast doubt on the viability of a scheme agreed 10 years ago.

Brittan to consider new explosives case evidence

By Stephen Cook

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, said last night that he would look carefully at any new scientific evidence about the Maguire case, in which an explosive test now widely regarded as unreliable led to seven people being imprisoned for a total of 69 years.

Swabs of a kitchen glove belonging to Mrs Annie Maguire and the hands of five family members and a friend were

analysed in 1975 by a 17-year-old apprentice government scientist using thin-layer chromatography (TLC).

The single test, which consumed all the sample material, indicated the presence of nitrophenol, a substance found in size to one millionth of a cube of sugar. All seven were convicted in 1976 on forensic evidence alone and the Court of Appeal upheld the convictions.

The campaign to clear the names of the seven, who have

now served their sentences, was described last night on a Channel 4 programme produced by RTE, the Irish broadcasting body.

Lord Fitt, Cardinal Hume and Sir John Bagg-Davison, the Tory MP, are among those who believe in their innocence.

Two scientists, Dr Peter Boyle of Trinity College, Dublin, and Professor Brian Caddy, of the University of Strathclyde, said on the programme that the single TLC

test was not reliable evidence and should have been repeated using different solvents or corroborated by gas spectrum or gas liquid chromatography.

At a late stage of the trial evidence was introduced which showed that another explosive called PETN produces positive results under TLC.

Lord Fitt said yesterday that this evidence had been hurried and badly presented, and this alone meant that the case should be reopened.

"I'm confident that a case with this amount of evidence would not even get into court now," he said. "In fact, I know they got similar results from a Palestine Liberation Organisation man but chose to deport him rather than bring him to court."

Mrs Maguire, her husband, two sons, her brother, her brother-in-law and a family friend were arrested after the Guildford pub bombing — had

told police that bombs had been made in her kitchen. They retracted the statements at their trial, saying that they had been beaten.

Although the seven said at the trial that they were beaten, they made no admissions and the trial evidence related entirely to the TLC tests. No explosives were found in the house 35 north London where the Maguires had lived since 1967.

Mr Joe Mulholland, head of current affairs at RTE, said yesterday: "I think one of the reasons the Government is reluctant to look again at this case is that it will open a can of worms. This was not the only bomb case of the sevenies where TLC formed the crucial evidence."

It was stated at the Maguire trial that the family house had been used to make the Guildford pub bomb. The IRA men, convicted after the Balcombe Street siege in London have since said that they were responsible for Guildford.

Labour shuns SDP to accept Tory rule in some councils

Alliance heading for control over seven counties

By Geoff Andrews, Local Government Correspondent

The Liberal Social Democratic Alliance expects to control seven county councils in England and Wales when the dust settles on the current round of annual meetings. Before the elections at the beginning of this month it controlled only the Isle of Wight.

The Alliance's hopes of holding sway in a much larger number of authorities, with the support of Labour, have dwindled as it becomes apparent that a number of local Labour parties are content to rule rather than enter into pacts.

The six counties to be controlled by the Alliance for the first time will be Cambridgeshire, Cornwall (jointly with independents), Devon (if current negotiations with minor parties succeed), and Gloucestershire, Somerset, and Wiltshire in deals with the Labour majority.

The wheeling and dealing which has been going on since the elections will be resolved at a series of meetings over the next fortnight, but in the numerous tight struggles for control the strains are already beginning to show.

Poll erodes position of council's school chief

By Andrew Mowbray, Education Staff

The hard-line leader of the employers' side in the teachers' pay dispute yesterday narrowly held on to his place as a national representative from the shires.

Mr Philip Merridale, Tory chairman of the Association of County Councils, education committee came fourth of five successful candidates for ACC for his authority of Hampshire, where the Conservatives lost overall control in the elections this month.

"It is one in the eye for him," said Mrs Sue Bartlett, Hampshire County Council Labour group leader, who topped the poll.

Instead of five Tories for ACC, Hampshire will now send a cross party delegation of Mrs Bartlett, Liberal group leader, Mrs Chris Curtis, and three Tories.

Whether Mr Merridale will keep his position as leader of the management side in teachers' pay negotiations is uncertain.

In Hampshire, which held its annual meeting yesterday, there was a Conservative plan to exploit a loophole in the 1972 Local Government Act to bring back the retired vice-chairman and chairman to vote if there was a danger of a hung vote. In the event the device was not needed because no pact was made between the other parties.

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Fertility clinics may open

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

A NUMBER of fertility clinics may be opened to provide counselling services combined with day care facilities for vasectomies, sterilisation and abortions. They would be run by the National Health Service.

The Department of Health is considering the proposals after the publication yesterday of a minority-funded report which condemned the counselling services in these fields as "uneven" and in some cases "inappropriate and confusing."

The report by Ms Isobel Allen of the Independent Police Studies Institute found that nearly 80 per cent of women and 87 per cent of men said that they had had enough or too much counselling on their decision to be sterilised.

The report also discovered that women were often treated in a patronising way by doctors, particularly junior hospital staff.

Ms Allen said that the report could offer savings to ministers by cutting out unnecessary counselling for most people who had already made up their minds after discussing the matter with close friends and relatives.

Instead, she thought that the money could be redirected to opening a number of pilot fertility clinics where facilities and counselling services could be made available to the groups most in need.

These included people under the age of 20, single parents, women over the age of 35 seeking abortions, and divorced, separated or widowed women.

The clinics would also provide free, well-attended, instant pregnancy testing. Lack of pregnancy testing facilities was still the major reason for delays in performing abortions.

One young woman who found consultants and doctors patronising said: "He tried to make me feel like a six-year-old." Another said she was asked: "Would you rather do hairdressing or have a baby? Your mum could look after it."

Others resented being sent to see a medical social worker because they felt it was none of their business.

The report was based on 700 interviews with men and women seeking vasectomies and sterilisation and women seeking abortions in a northern city and an outer London Borough.

Counselling Services for Sterilisation, Vasectomy and Termination of Pregnancy, 25-80 from the Policy Studies Institute, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR.

Duke's head 'was to be sent to princess'

Masked raiders who attempted to dig up the Duke of Beaufort's grave planned to remove his head and send it to Princess Anne, it was claimed at a committal proceedings held before a magistrates' court yesterday.

The raiders, members of the Hunt Retribution Squad, also intended to scatter parts of the 10th duke's body at the Basing Day meeting place of the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt, Mr Ian Glen, prosecuting, told Avon North magistrates' court at Yate, near Bristol.

The attempt failed as a shovel broke when only 10 in of soil remained above the coffin in a family burial ground at Badminton Parish Church, near Bristol. The church joins the late duke's home, Badminton House.

Before the court were Terence James Helsby, aged 22, unemployed, of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, London, and John Christopher Curtin, aged 22, unemployed, of Kingsland Avenue, Coventry, West Midlands. The magistrates agreed to lift reporting restrictions.

The men faced two new charges yesterday. It is alleged that they conspired together with unknown people to desecrate the duke's remains without lawful authority. They were also jointly charged with having caused £100 worth of damage to a wooden cross.

Mr Glen referred to a press release handed in to the Press Association news agency on Boxing Day last year, which set out what happened at the churchyard.

He said that the document was headed: "Desecrate to Liberate, hunt retribution Squad press release. Operation Digging for Victory."

The document told how the squad attempted to steal and desecrate the duke's body. The document added: "We also planned to remove his head and despatch it to Princess Anne."

The note said that there were at least 100 members prepared to use violence to end the blood sports, and named other people who were "targets."

A press release delivered to the press showed three people in paramilitary uniforms, posing with digging tools by the duke's grave.

The hearing continues.

The Libyans authorities have discovered a hold-all containing travellers' cheques, diaries and air tickets belonging to Mr Philip Jones, the British engineer whom they mistakenly imprisoned and tortured for 13 months as a spy.

The bag was handed to the British interests section of the Italian embassy in Tripoli, on the day the Guardian published an account of Mr Jones' ordeal, and his abortive attempts to gain compensation from Colonel Gadhafi's regime.

The travellers' cheques were to the value of £1,600 (£13,637). Mr Jones does not know yet whether they are all still in the bag.

The attempt of his London solicitor, Mr Geoffrey Bindman, to secure justice appears to be showing some result, after more than a year of representation, evasion, or silence from the Libyans, who are prevented by solicitors in the West End of London.

The Guardian published Mr Jones' story on April 9. Later that day the head of the Libyans' Government's civil affairs department in Tripoli took the hold-all and its contents to the British interests section. The bag is on its way to Britain.

Mr Bindman wrote to Mr Jones in February saying that claims for compensation could not be entertained because Mr Jones had telephoned them saying that he intended to hold a press conference.

Without the support which has been given over the past decades to British space astronomy by NASA these areas of research could not seriously have been entered.

Spacelab is the contribution of the European Space Agency (ESA) to the shuttle programme and this flight, originally planned for October 1980, has been repeatedly delayed for technical reasons.

The most recent difficulties have occurred in the ESA-developed instrument pointing system which is crucial to studies in astronomy and on later flights — to the investigation of earth resources.

Dr Loren Acton, the US astronomy payload specialist who will be aboard Spacelab 2, said yesterday at RAL that every one now assumed that all was well.

Key experiments will be looking at the abundance of helium and at the ultra-violet structure of the sun's corona the ultra hot streaming regions outside the solar disc — and at X-ray sources within and outside the galaxy. Experiments will also be examining the effect of weightlessness on the development of lignin in young plants. Lignin is still a woody material which gives wood its stiffness, and which also makes the extraction of plant cellulose difficult — and the regulation of the calcium cycle in humans.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Disease toll at 35

A 45-YEAR-OLD woman from Cannock, Staffordshire, who is thought to be suffering from Legionnaires' Disease was admitted to Stafford District Hospital yesterday, bringing the total admissions to 159 since the outbreak began, writes Andrew Vetch.

Two 64-year-old men, one from the Kingsley area and the other from the Cannock area, have died from the disease at Kingsmead geriatric hospital, bringing the death toll to 35. Three more patients in the Stafford hospital, intensive care unit were described as "very poorly" last night.

Hotellers in Staffordshire yesterday reported cancellations and a drop in bookings after the outbreak.

Accused of aiding Libyan

A BUSINESSMAN, Anthony Gill, was yesterday remanded in custody for eight days, charged with helping a Libyan to evade trial in Britain. The Libyan, Mohamed Shehli, is said to be a relative of Col Gadhafi.

Mr Gill, aged 48, of Colchester, Essex, made a two-minute appearance at Horsham Road Magistrates' Court, London. There was no application for bail. Gill returned to Britain on Sunday after being held in Egypt for six months.

Welsh language trial in court

THREE leading members of the Welsh Language Society were remanded on bail by Cardiff Magistrates yesterday on charges of burglary and causing criminal damage after an incident at the headquarters of the Welsh joint education committee in the city at the weekend.

Cruise watchers charged

THREE people have been charged with trespass or criminal damage after an attempt by 400 demonstrators to occupy military land in Wiltshire. Thirty others arrested were cautioned and released.

The demonstrators, including ranges near Shrewton on Salisbury Plain, was organised by CruiseWatch, which monitors cruise missile convoys from Greenham Common in Berkshire, to the plain.

Firebomb bombs in Londonderry

TWO incendiary devices designed to send a ball of fire rolling across the road were left in the doorways of two shops in the Waterside area of Londonderry on Monday night.

Miner breaks down in court

By Paul Hayland, Welsh Correspondent

A miner accused of murdering a taxi driver during the coal strike broke down yesterday as he told the jury at Cardiff Crown Court. "I feel terribly ashamed of what I have done. I can't express my feelings. I don't suppose his family will ever forgive me."

Reginald Hancock, aged 21, admitted pushing a 46lb concrete block off Rhymney Bridge, near Merthyr Tydfil, as the taxi passed underneath, taking a working miner to Merthyr Vale colliery in a police convoy. The block smashed through the windscreen killing the driver, Mr David Wilkie, aged 30.

Hancock, who denies murder, said he intended the block to land on the road near the taxi to frighten the working miner, Mr David Williams. Hancock wept as he told the court: "I didn't know him at all. I didn't want to hurt him. I have never hurt a fly in my life."

The jury heard that two other miners, Russell Shandland, aged 21, and Anthony Williams, aged 20, both of Rhymney, mid-Glamorgan, went to Hancock's house near the bridge shortly before dawn on November 30 last year.

Hancock and Shandland carried a 65lb concrete post to the bridge and placed it on the rail with the block along. "As the police Land Rover came under, I just pushed the block and ran," said Hancock. "I heard a crash, a smash. I heard a siren go off. I was terrified. It was a blur of lights, that's all I could see."

Shandland, who also denies murder, told the jury that he pushed the post off the bridge but had not intended to hurt anyone or damage the vehicles. It was just a protest gesture against David Williams," he said. "We weren't there to ambush anything. I didn't think anything bad was going to happen."

The three men ran to the house of Hancock's girlfriend in Tredegar, where they heard on the radio that Mr Wilkie had died of his injuries. "We couldn't believe what had happened," said Hancock. Later we heard that police had been at his house."

Hancock said that the head of South Wales CID, Detective Chief Superintendent Don Carsey, put pressure on him after he went to the police with a solicitor and made a statement. "The door flew open and he said: 'Come on Hancock, cough up. We have got your girl friend upstairs. The quicker you cough up, the quicker she can go home to that young baby.'"

"I burst out crying. I told them everything. I thought he would let her go but I found out later he kept her for nine hours."

Hancock agreed with Mr Martin Thomas, QC, prosecuting, that it could be expected that people would be killed if the block was dropped 24ft on to the taxi from the bridge. However, he did not want to hurt anyone.

He did not "give a damn" about the strike but admitted having taken a bet at Mr Williams' house and sawing down a wooden post to block his route to the colliery.

The judge has directed the jury that Hancock is not guilty of murder. He faces two charges of conspiring to damage the taxi.

Shandland said that he had voted against the strike but could never cross a picket line. He had seen disgraceful behaviour by police and pickets on a picket line and had kept well away from the violence.

Stolen boa

Police are looking for an 8ft Amazonian boa constrictor, stolen from Newquay Zoo, Cornwall, yesterday. The zoo manager, Mr Norman Marshall, said that the snake, which normally crushes and swallows its prey was harmless.

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Party leaders urged to resign from NCCL

CIVIL RIGHTS

By Alan Travis

A call for the resignation of the leaders of the SDP/Liberal Alliance and the Labour Party from the National Council for Civil Liberties was made during a Commons debate on civil rights yesterday.

Mr Richard Ottaway (C, Nottingham N) said the 1,500 signatories to the 1984 Charter on Civil Rights, which was designed to widen the NCCL base of support, should resign since the civil rights body now had a "lopsided approach" after the decisions made at its last annual general meeting.

He said he could not agree with the leaders of the Alliance that there was a prospect of reform from within since, on his resignation, Mr Larry Gostin, the former NCCL general secretary, had said that there was little prospect of internal reform.

At the heart of the dispute lay the NCCL's attitude towards the miners' strike, and whether working miners had the same fundamental rights as striking miners. Mr Ottaway said that the people who now controlled the NCCL believed that power, through the right to strike, was more important than the right not to strike.

"This I cannot accept," he said. Mr Ottaway also called for the European convention on Human Rights to be incorporated into British law. He said that such a move would not only have protected the freedom to associate for working miners, but there was also a general feeling that Kent miners would have had a good case to make at the European Court against police who set up road blocks at the Dartmouth tunnel during the strike.

Mr Alex Carlisle, the Liberal MP for Montgomery and an



Mr Carlisle: 'Legitimate debate for council'

executive committee member of NCCL, said that Mr Ottaway's speech had been "unnecessarily destructive."

He said that the debate over collective rights and individual rights had been a legitimate one for the NCCL to pursue.

At the executive meeting which followed the AGM the committee had passed a resolution regretting the resignation of the members of the NCCL inquiry into the miners' dispute.

He underlined that the NCCL meeting had reaffirmed its commitment to advise individuals on their individual rights, whatever views they held or whatever organisation they were members of.

The AGM had decided that it would not give advice to the National Front as a political party but would continue to offer advice to individuals, he said.

Mr Carlisle also endorsed Mr Ottaway's call for the European Convention of Human Rights to be incorporated into British law.

GLC BILL

Lords strike again

THE GOVERNMENT suffered a fourth defeat in the Lords yesterday on its detailed plans for the abolition of the Greater London Council and metropolitan county councils.

In a move led by the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev. Graham Leonard, the peers rejected government proposals making a review of the position of the Inner London Education Authority mandatory after five years. Voting was 143 to 133 (majority nine) during the resumed committee stage of the Local Government Bill.

The bishop said that a mandatory review, followed by further reviews after 1991, would be demoralising and disruptive. Independent Labour and Alliance peers backed his amendment, which leaves the review process as an option. For the Government, Lord Gower said the amendments were "alarmist, the move should be rejected." The new idea will be responsible for very substantial sums of ratepayers' money and the Government has an obligation to monitor its use of this money," he said.



RED-BLOODED DONOR: Labour Party Leader Neil Kinnock giving blood at a donor session held at the Treasury in London yesterday

Further £2m for famine victims

FOREIGN AID

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday announced a further £2 million of British aid to help drought victims in Ethiopia and Sudan.

Mr Raison said: "In response to requests by various British voluntary agencies I am pleased to announce further assistance totalling over £2 million for victims of famine in Ethiopia and the Sudan."

The total amount of British Government emergency aid to the Horn of Africa since October, 1984, now totals £55 million.

Mr Raison said: "In response to requests by various British voluntary agencies I am pleased to announce further assistance totalling over £2 million for victims of famine in Ethiopia and the Sudan."

Jenkin declines to meet the rate-cap rebels

The Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, yesterday rejected a request from the remaining rate-capping authorities for a meeting, saying that there was nothing to negotiate about.

Mr Jenkin said the seven councils which had not yet set a rate had no excuse for further delay and there was a clear risk that some of them would represent a meeting as "negotiations."

Now that Parliament has approved the rate limits and the rate support grant settlement for 1985/86 and I have no intention of going back to Parliament to seek a change in either, there is nothing to negotiate about."

The Prime Minister last night backed up Mr Jenkin's decision not to meet the local authorities. She did so in a written reply to Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, who had complained about the Environment Secretary's refusal to meet the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of the London Authorities.

Mrs Thatcher said in her letter that the ratecapped authorities' policy of "non-compliance" with the Rates Act had led to their deliberately choosing not to enter into discussion with Mr Jenkin under the terms of the act when they had the opportunity to do so.

The Labour Party's local government committee yesterday described Mr Jenkin's refusal to meet the local authorities as an "affront to the democratic dialogue between government and citizens."

The committee also agreed a resolution, which could enable those Labour councils who are refusing to set a rate to get off the hook.

The resolution says that through the no-rate tactic for deficit financing budgets, councils could fulfil party policy and force the Government on to the defensive.

"It believes, however, that no party or group should require individual councillors to break the law as an article of faith."

The committee agreed that no council should be expected to continue this particular tactic unless it believed that it was the only option for maintaining jobs and services and that it had an identifiable specific commitment from party members, trade unions, and community groups to ensure that the financial and personal risks were shared with those calling for or who supported such decisions.

The committee declared "absolutely unacceptable" any displays of abuse, division and violent aggression by Labour Party members damaging to the party.

LONDON TUBE

£135 m ticket scheme

By Alan Travis

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday announced approval for a £135 million automatic underground ticketing system for London Underground, which will introduce on-the-spot fines to deter fare dodgers.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, the Transport Minister, said yesterday that she hoped the new improved service would be fully operational by 1988. Until then, London Transport's 1,100 ticket collectors would disappear.

The ticketing system will involve installation of ticket machinery at all stations, with automatic entry and exit barriers in a central area and "open" stations in the suburbs.

There will be more emphasis on fare checks on buses and trams and mobile ticketing squads will descend without notice on stations to check for fare dodgers.

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, told MPs yesterday.

Mr Pattie described the employees' applications for a stake in their company as "a pretty satisfactory return."

In an exchange after his statement on the privatisation share offer Mr Pattie rejected Opposition claims that the Government had "betrayed a solemn pledge" to retain a 25 per cent holding in the company. "The national interest is totally safeguarded by the special share and also by reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission which is built in," he insisted.

But noting Mr Pattie's failure to say how much had been netted by the sale, the Shadow Industry Secretary, Mr John Smith, suggested the Government was ashamed to name a figure because of growing public awareness that they were selling off the furniture to pay the rent.

Some 55 per cent of the shares on offer have been allocated to financial institutions. Mr Pattie confirmed in his statement.

Mr Smith said that apparently only 2 per cent of the shares found their way to British Aerospace workers — "a definite Government's often professed intention that shares should go to employees."

But Mr Pattie replied: "I would have thought that 3 million shares applied for by the employees is actually a pretty satisfactory return."

LOCAL COUNCILS

Opening the doors

By Geoffrey Andrews

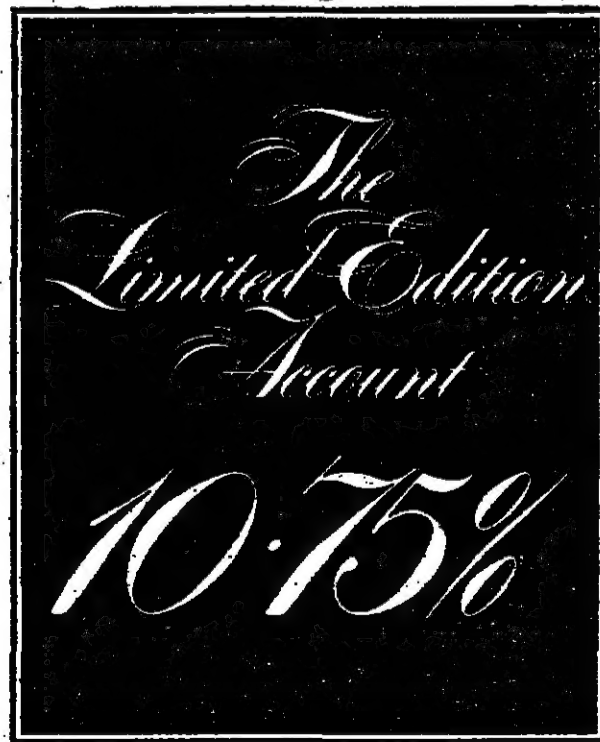
SECRET talks on the price of seats for the Sooty show, discussions on twinning with a foreign city and tree preservation in High Peak — all are being conducted away from the public because councils have no obligation to allow the public into sub-committee meetings.

In Bromley, Kent, that has also meant that four years of negotiations over the redevelopment of the centre of the town by the council in conjunction with Wimpey has also been decided in sub-committee meetings where local ratepayers are excluded but representatives of the developers are not.

This is just part of the background to a Privatisation Bill due for its Third Reading in the House of Commons this Friday, backed by a file on thousands of similar town hall committee meetings held in secret throughout the country.

But although the measure has the support of 200 backbench MPs of all parties its sponsor, Mr Bobla Squire (C, Horsham), said yesterday that he still feared that one or two MPs could oppose him on Friday and "allow hundreds of councils to continue like some kind of private club."

Presenting the results of a survey of several thousand county and district council committees throughout England and Wales, Mr Squire said he was cautiously optimistic that the bill would succeed because no large group of MPs was against it.



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PRIVATISATION

No rush by BAe men

ONLY about 2,500 of British Aerospace's 70,000-strong workforce have applied for shares in the Government's £550 million sell-off, the Information Technology Minister,

Cost of MX is boosted by 50pc

Washington: The air force, blaming budget cuts made by Congress, has revised the cost of each MX intercontinental ballistic missile upward by 50 per cent, Defense Week said in yesterday's edition.

The magazine said that the air force notified US congressional leaders last week that the estimated cost of producing each MX in fiscal 1985 would rise from \$79.3 million to \$119 million.

Defense Week said that the notification came in letters sent by the acting Air Force Secretary, Mr E. C. Aldridge, to the House Speaker, Mr Thomas O'Neill, a Democrat, and Senator Barry Goldwater, the Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Federal law requires such notification whenever a defence Department procurement cost estimate rises by more than 15 per cent.

Mr Aldridge said that he raised the MX estimate on April 5, "solely because Congress voted to procure 21 missiles in the fiscal year 1985 instead of the budgeted quantity of 40," the magazine said.

Defense Week quoted an unidentified air force spokesman as saying that "the difference in cost is the result of losing the benefits of economies of scale."

The magazine said that the air force has also increased by 12.3 per cent the estimated price tag for each MX built in fiscal 1985, which begins next October 1.

Each missile in this projected batch of 49 would cost \$69.2 million — less than the fiscal 1985 unit cost because, as more missiles are produced, bugs are eliminated from production and costs decline, according to the magazine.

But the air force spokesman was quoted as saying that this figure "will go up again" if, as expected, Congress trims the Administration's request for 48 down to somewhere between 12 and 21.

Meanwhile, the General Electric company pleaded guilty yesterday to defrauding the air force on a missile contract, and was fined \$1,040,000 and ordered to pay back \$800,000 in overpayments.

The company, the country's sixth largest defence contractor, admitted its employees altered time cards on a \$47 million contract to refurbish nuclear warheads on the Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missile. GE became the biggest defence contractor ever convicted in a criminal case.

On indictment on March 26, the company pleaded not guilty, but it said yesterday that it changed its plea after an employee admitted altering time cards. — AP/Reuters.

Besieged group hit with gas

Philadelphia: A police siege of the headquarters of the radical group, MOVE, erupted in gunfire that lasted for 90 minutes yesterday, after officers attacked the fortified house with water cannon and teargas.

There were no reports of injuries in the fusillade, which began after Police Commissioner Gregoire Sambor read an eviction notice to members of the back-to-nature group, whose lifestyle had prompted complaints from neighbours.

Members of the group refused to leave the house, and police released two high-pressure water streams from deluge cannons against the building. Gunfire then erupted from the first and second floors, and police responded with shots and teargas.

About 150 helmeted officers had surrounded the building on Sunday, taunted by occupants using a bullhorn to demand the release of the group's imprisoned leader, Jim Jones.

Police evacuated 200 to 300 families overnight from a four-block area around the house. — AP.

Ortega on Paris visit

Paris: President Ortega of Nicaragua arrived in France yesterday to seek support against the US trade embargo. He will meet President Mitterrand, the Socialist Party Secretary, Mr Lionel Jospin, and the Communist leader, Mr Marchais.

France has made clear its opposition to the embargo. "Conflicts in Central America will not be resolved through military actions or economic measures, such as trade sanctions," the External Relations Ministry said.

The US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, announced the embargo on May 1, on the eve of the seven-nation economic summit in Bonn. The move followed rejection by the US Congress for President Reagan's request for \$14 million in aid for anti-Sandinist rebels.

Party lead eroded in Italian regional battles, forecasts say

Communist power bid loses force after polls

From George Armstrong in Rome

The Communist Party appears to have slipped from its perch as the largest party in Italy in local elections which ended yesterday.

According to early projections, the party — which overtook the Christian Democrats for the first time in the European Parliament elections last year — will get 30.1 per cent of the vote. This would be 1.4 per cent down on the last local elections five years ago, and more than 4 per cent fewer than in the European vote.

This means that the party, which took a 0.3 per cent lead in the European elections, seems to have failed in its effort to outpoll the Christian Democrats and seek a role in the national coalition government.

Collectively, the government parties — Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Republicans and Liberals — are forecast to take 58.3 per cent of the vote, just under 2 per cent down on their showing in 1980.

Christian Democratic fears of being overtaken by the Communists had grown since the European elections. Attributed to sympathy over the death of the popular party leader, Enrico Berlinguer, just before the election, the Communists had said that if it was repeated

this time they would ask for a mandate to try to form a government.

A prediction by the Doxa opinion research centre issued 41 hours after polls closed in the two-day election showed the five parties in the coalition Government still holding a joint lead.

The Socialist Prime Minister, Mr Bettino Craxi, has warned that a poor showing by the Government in the elections could threaten its existence. But political commentators said this danger now seemed to have disappeared. The forecast said the Christian Democrats would gain 34.8 per cent of the votes, down from 36.8 per cent five years ago, and the Socialists would take 13.5 per cent, up from 12.7 per cent, in voting for new councils in 15 of Italy's 20 regions.

A Social Democrat leader said last night: "The important thing is that the five-party coalition has emerged unscathed."

The Socialist Vice-Secretary, Mr Claudio Martelli, said: "We see a double victory. We are very pleased about our party's result and satisfied with the result of the government as a whole."

For the first time, there is a Green List party and the forecast says it may get 2 per cent of the vote, which would make it the same size as the long-established Liberal Party.

Kohl has to answer for vote disaster

From Anna Tomforde in Bonn

The disastrous showing of Chancellor Kohl's CDU in the North Rhine-Westphalia elections on Sunday, and the land that was a turning point for West German politics.

Although setbacks are not uncommon at half-term for ruling parties, the 7 per cent losses suffered by the Christian Democrats, and the withdrawal of support by such voter groups as farmers and pensioners, are a clear signal for the conservative-liberal Bonn coalition that the vote is not prepared to pay with unemployment for vague promises of an economic recovery.

The result also showed that the average voter — there are 12.6 million of them in North Rhine-Westphalia — remains fairly unimpressed by economic summit spectacles and grand political gestures as long as the trend of rising unemployment and growing environmental destruction is not halted.

Chancellor Kohl conceded that unemployment of 2.3 million is the Government's biggest problem, and he said that his party had to do some hard thinking about why half-a-million of its voters stayed at home on Sunday, and a further 250,000 went straight to the Social Democrats in the highly industrialised and densely populated state.

He put on a brave face, saying that once people had understood that sacrifices were needed before recovery could make itself felt, the CDU would have a good chance in the general election in February 1987.

But there can be no doubt that for many inside the CDU the defeat came as the last straw after a string of blunders and political failures. The Chancellor must have been particularly stung by the immediate rebuke from the CDU leader, Mr Franz Josef Strauss, who put the blame for the "earthquake" in the Ruhr on to Dr Kohl's shoulders.

Commentators predicted that pressure on the Chancellor and CDU leader to be replaced before the next election would now rise.

The emergence of a clear Social Democrat challenger for the chancellorship, the alert and popular North Rhine-Westphalian premier, Mr Johannes Rau, will compound Dr Kohl's problems.

The veteran SPD leader, Mr Willy Brandt, made clear yesterday that Mr Rau was being considered "a front-line candidate" for both the chancellorship and the succession in federal party leadership.

Although it may not be entirely justified on grounds of political content, the Social Democrats are also deriving great comfort from the failure of the environmentalist Green Party to win any seats in North Rhine-Westphalia — the second severe setback for the Greens within three months.

Leader comment, page 10

\$3.7m Le Monde rescue plan

Paris: Mr André Fontaine, editor-in-chief of the financially troubled French newspaper Le Monde, yesterday presented his long-awaited rescue plan involving 10 per cent wage cuts and the loss of 250 jobs.

Journalists said he intended to raise money by selling the newspaper's building, a move which angered staff when presented by his predecessor, Mr André Laurens.

Mr Fontaine, whose capital is around \$50,000, has been losing readers and advertising since 1982 and has debts of \$9.4 million.

Mr Fontaine told staff that

up to \$3.7 million of outside capital would be injected and 330 more shares created, with 25 per cent of the shares in the new company structure being offered to outside investors.

In the new structure, the editorial staff will hold 30 per cent of the shares, compared with 40 per cent at present. Mr Fontaine himself, 6 per cent, and his wife, 1 per cent, will also hold shares.

Thirty per cent will go to a few traditional shareholders, the most prominent of whom is Mr Hubert Beuve-Méry, founder of the respected daily. Soon after taking over in

January, Mr Fontaine stressed that new capital would only be sought on condition that Le Monde's independence was not threatened and that outside shareholders were a minority.

Executives and office workers have agreed to salary cuts, and the editorial staff have agreed to be paid no more than the rest of the staff. All shareholders will meet at the end of the month to vote on the wage cuts and proposed new company structure.

Unions have asked for the decision on wage cuts to be delayed until the end of the month. — Reuters.

Paris: The former President, Mr Giscard d'Estaing, will try to halt the publication of memoirs by the late Central African Emperor, Jean-Bedel Bokassa.

His lawyer, Mr Herve Cren, said he was taking legal action against the book, Ma Verite, because it contained "extraneous, mad, and even grotesque" passages about the former President.

He treats the French President like a gang-leader, a petty gangster," Mr Cren said.

Ban sought on book

From Alex Scott in Brussels

Germany became more intransigent in its refusal to accept a cut in guaranteed prices for its cereals farmers yesterday as EEC ministers began their latest attempt to fix common farm prices for the next year.

There had been predictions that the Germans would relax their position somewhat after their regional elections at the weekend, but Bonn still seems likely to prevent a successful conclusion to the latest talks.

The possibility of outvoting Germany in the council against the German farm minister, Mr Ignaz Kiechle, was indicated that he would veto such a move.

The commission produced another compromise for the farm ministers yesterday to replace its original January proposals and the series of compromises put forward by the Italian presidency of the farm council.

The new proposals included a climb down on the commission's original 3.6 per cent cut in wheat prices, and a more complicated accounting formula.

But Germany is sticking to the idea of a price freeze for cereals, arguing that its farmers have suffered from reduc-

Seeds of farm deal fall on stony ground

From Alex Scott in Brussels

The search for an agreement is now becoming desperate, after the failure of a four-day meeting in Luxembourg. The farm prices were due to be agreed by April 1, and farm-ers' organisations throughout the market have argued that the delay has resulted in real hardship for their members.

The British Labour MEP for Glasgow, Mrs Janet Buchanan, blamed the system of guaranteed prices for the fact that some 7 per cent of the Common Market harvest of 11 varieties of fruit and vegetables were dumped or destroyed in 1984.

Despite some large increases in the quantities of fruit and vegetables bought up by the EEC last year, notably of oranges, the EEC destroyed fewer apples and tomatoes. From a glut of 1.1 million tonnes of apples, the surplus fell to 125,156 tonnes last year, while the tomato mountain was squashed down by almost half to just under 30,000 tonnes.

But Mrs Buchanan claimed that the price to the EEC taxpayer still came to \$267 million last year — up from \$108 million in 1983. "The cost of destroying oranges alone was more than \$90 million and the lemons cost us nearly \$67 million," she said.

But, above all, the Russians have said in public and private that they insist on discussing a comprehensive ban on space weapons, including research, and say that they will not embark on negotiations to reduce nuclear weapons unless the US agrees to this.

All the indications are that the two superpowers are boxed into mutually-exclusive positions. While neither wants to walk out of Geneva, it would be an important political concession by Mr Gromyko, if the Geneva negotiations, when they resume at the end of May, are to move into a less bruising phase.

Mr Shultz will tell Mr Gromyko that the US remains anxious for a summit. The Americans hope that the Soviet Union will agree to pre-

pare the ground by negotiating on the crisis management and accident prevention proposals which President Reagan repeated at Strasbourg.

But, like the President, Mr Shultz is certain to speak of continuing US anger over the Soviet refusal to assume responsibility for the shooting of a US officer in East Germany earlier this year. This has clouded Mr Reagan's eagerness for a summit.

Mr Shultz, perhaps to compensate for the brevity of his meeting with Mr Gromyko, has armed himself with the Administration's senior experts on US-Soviet relations. They include Mr Robert McFarlane, the head of the President's National Security Council, Mr Paul Nitze, the senior arms control adviser, and the US

Bullfight a knockout

From Jane Walker in Madrid

TRADITIONAL dignity was cast aside at the Valencia bullfight on Sunday when two rival matadors, whose savagery shaded that of the day's bravest bull, squared up to each other in the ring.

A young and ambitious matador, Vicente Ruiz, or El Soro, needed his senior partner, Jose Mari Manzanares, of making flamboyant passes at his bull during the sixth and final fight of the day.

In the end, however, the bull was ignored, and El Soro threw a vicious uppercut to Manzanares' face. The older man stead his ground and returned El Soro's blow watching the crowd's reaction.

Police then intervened, and led El Soro away. Manzanares resumed the fight after engaging the attention of the bemused bull, and killed it. El Soro spent the night in a police cell.

In the Basque town of San Sebastian, a young Spanish policeman was shot dead by three men early yesterday. The killing followed the style of the Basque separatist group, ETA.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Uganda grenade attack

TWO hand grenades were thrown yesterday at Ugandan Internal Affairs Minister, Mr John Luvuliza-Kirunda. He escaped unhurt, but eight others were wounded, one seriously, witnesses in Kampala said.

Mr Luvuliza-Kirunda is in charge of internal security and is secretary-general of the Uganda People's Congress, the ruling party of President Milton Obote.

Several people were detained for questioning. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack. The government has been faced since February 1981 with threats from various bands of guerrillas. — AP.

Energy-saver

JACQUES Cousteau's latest vessel left the Atlantic port of La Rochelle yesterday on a two-and-a-half years voyage designed to prove the feasibility of a revolutionary wind-powered propulsion system. The craft, whose monocoque hull splits into a catamaran stern, has two 30-foot high aluminium cylinders which provide complete auxiliary power for the two 156-horsepower diesels. — Reuters.

Unchristian act

A CHRISTIAN couple convicted under Islamic law of having illicit sex are to be publicly flogged tomorrow at a Karachi race course. They will receive 10 lashes each for having extramarital intercourse. The couple, who had been living together for at least five years, also were sentenced to five years hard labour and fines. It is believed to be the first such conviction of non-Muslims in Pakistan. — AP.

Airport protest

ARGENTINA yesterday asked the Organisation of American States urgently to consider "new threats" to Argentina from the opening of a British military airport on the Falkland Islands. OAS sources said that the Argentine Foreign Minister, Mr Dante Caputo, may fly to Washington to underline the gravity with which Argentina views the new British installation. — AP.

Pupils abducted

SWAPO guerrillas who abducted a group of school children at the weekend fled into neighbouring Angola with up to 14 of them. Namibian security headquarters said in Windhoek. The Swapo party captured 20 to 30 children from a boarding school but 16 escaped. — Reuters.

Envoy named

INDIA'S new High Commissioner to London is to be Mr P. C. Alexander, aged 64, a former top aide of the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. He resigned as principal secretary last January after members of his personal staff were arrested in connection with a spy scandal. — AP.

Records lost

A ROCKET hit Lebanon's central law courts on Beirut's Green Line, yesterday starting a fire which destroyed all legal records. The president of the Higher Judicial Council said the loss was the biggest disaster of the civil war. — Reuters.

Ban lifted

AUSTRALIAN trade unions have agreed to end a blockade of sea air and land freight into Queensland. It had been imposed to protest against the sacking of workers and new labour legislation. — Reuters.

Greek aim

GREECE'S ruling Socialists, in an election manifesto, yesterday reaffirmed their aim of removing US bases and nuclear weapons from the country. — Reuters.

Bombs kill two

TWO PEOPLE have been killed and at least 50 injured in renewed bomb attacks ahead of a controversial rural election in Bangladesh. The Opposition has called for a boycott of the elections, which they say will strengthen the military rule of President Ershad, below. — Reuters.



Shultz 'passes' on the naming of negotiators

PLO leader warns against Hussein confederation plan

Tunis: King Hussein of Jordan is ready to declare a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation whose government would negotiate an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory, a top PLO official said here yesterday.

But Mr Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, second in command to Mr Yasser Arafat in the biggest PLO grouping, Fatah, said also that it would be a mistake for the PLO to go along with such a move.

"King Hussein is ready to announce the setting up of a (Jordanian-Palestinian) confederation now," he said. But this would go against decisions taken by the Palestine National Council (the PLO parliament-in-exile).

The announcement of a confederation would mean the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian government, he said.

"I am convinced that it is this confederal government which will carry out negotiations over the head of the PLO," Mr Arafat and King Hussein signed an accord in February envisaging a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation after a UN-sponsored international Middle East peace conference.

Abu Iyad stressed that such a confederation was only possible after negotiations were concluded for the setting up of an independent Palestinian state in land now occupied by Israel, which could then be confederated with Jordan.

The Arafat-Hussein agreement called for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip which were occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Abu Iyad said that King Hussein had proposed the immediate establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation during talks with the PLO on the February accord signed in Amman.

The idea was rejected then, but the Jordanian monarch was now actively planning once more to declare the confederation before international peace talks, he said.

Western diplomatic sources said that the formation of a provisional Jordanian-Palestinian government would seriously weaken the role of the PLO.

Mr Arafat has, in the past, opposed setting up a Palestinian government-in-exile, saying it would carry out negotiations over the head of the PLO, and make it prey to stronger governments.

Since PLO guerrillas were forced to leave Beirut in 1982, the movement has been effectively split by a rebellion, dividing its supporters and pro-Syrian factions based in Damascus.

The PLO is currently seeking to start a dialogue with the US in the framework of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. But Israel refuses to talk with a delegation that includes PLO members.

Poll will free reforms

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

The Labour Alignment is expected to maintain its traditional commanding majority in elections yesterday to Israel's Histadrut, the country's giant labour federation.

The election is of limited value in indicating national political trends, but a good showing for Labour will make it easier for the Prime Minister and Labour leader, Mr Shimon Peres, to push through badly needed reforms to deal with runaway inflation and a huge foreign debt.

Last night, it was clear that a dull and lacklustre campaign had taken its toll: only 40 per cent of the 1.5 million eligible voters had turned out with three hours to go before the polls closed. First results are expected early today.

The election is of special interest because it is being held under the first bipartisan national unity government in Israeli history. But its chief significance is that it has delayed implementation of crucial economic measures for several months.

The Labour Alignment now holds 62 per cent of the seats in the Histadrut's policy-making convention, as against 26 per cent for the Likud. Opinion polls earlier this week predicted that the Likud would get between 61 and 70 per cent of seats.

With 66 per cent, or two-thirds of the vote, the Alignment will have the power to amend by-laws and prevent the Likud from bringing motions before the executive.

Whatever the result, the Labour federation is expected to continue its conditional support for the package deal system of solving economic problems and its struggle to maintain real wages and employment. A big vote for the Alignment candidate and present secretary general, Mr Yosef Kassar, is likely to produce a stronger and more coherent policy.

The dullness of the campaign, which has been described as a phoney election, is attributed to the unwillingness of Labour and Likud to create unnecessary tension between them before either is ready to break up the unity government.

Only a very high result for Labour—70 per cent or more—seems likely to tempt Mr Peres into going to the country. Anything less would not be worth the risk of a costly and destructive campaign that could result in a deadlock similar to the one that forced the creation of the unity government last September.

Jerusalem admits to smuggling charges

From Michael White in Washington

The prospect of a serious diplomatic rift between Israel and the United States about the illegal smuggling of 80 krypton-timing devices whose nuclear bombs — seems unlikely despite a federal grand jury investigation which is drawing to a close in Los Angeles.

The State Department offered no formal confirmation yesterday that such an investigation was taking place for fear of jeopardising any subsequent prosecution. But customs officials privately confirmed the "neutral" claim in a Newsweek report, and the Israeli embassy in Washington admitted that a "certain quantity" of switches had been transferred to Israel between 1979 and 1983.

Given the US's notorious sensitivity to attempts to circumvent its nuclear non-proliferation regulations, the Israelis, in a statement from Jerusalem, emphasised that no kryptons had been re-exported and that those already used in defence-related industries were for "research and development of conventional weapons systems only."

The Israelis are not admitting any government link and are cooperating with the US Customs and Justice Department's inquiries. An Israeli entrepreneur, Arnon Milchan, is mentioned by Newsweek.

Though he denied any knowledge of the affair and said he had no recent links with the firm that bears his name in Tel Aviv.

The consensus of the intelligence community is that Israel has possessed nuclear weapons since around 1968, although nothing more than the capability to produce them quickly is needed has ever been admitted in the turbulent climate of the Middle East.

Israel's motive for secrecy is partly attributable to the need to remain sufficiently ambiguous for Washington to overlook her nuclear capability when considering conventional military aid.

What seems certain is that if the Los Angeles grand jury comes up with an indictment of someone within jurisdiction of the US courts in the next few weeks then the pressure will be considerable to use the full penalties under the Export Control Act.

The State Department is still smug about a 1984 case in which a Pakistani businessman, Mr Nasir Ahmed Vaid, was actually caught smuggling 80 kryptons out of Houston airport.

Considerable evidence linked him to official sources, and the State Department wanted prosecutions. But poor communications, supposedly resulted in the trial judge not grasping the serious nuclear nature of the offence, and Mr Vaid was merely deported.

Pentagon balks at British contract for Oman bases

From Mark Tran in Washington

The prospects of a maintenance contract being awarded to a British company and an American partner to work on three US-built bases in Oman may be in jeopardy because of opposition in the US.

The firm, Alroway Ltd, had been selected by the US Air Force, which is now conducting a final internal review before the award of the contract. The Pentagon passed this off as normal procedure, but the review is more complicated than that.

The \$50 million contract was given to Alroway at the insistence of Sultan Qaboos bin Said, much to the annoyance of American companies and Capitol Hill. As one Republican congressman, Mr William Whitehurst, complained, the contract was supposed to be open to competitive bidding. But the Sultan put his foot down and decided to give the work to a British company.

The Pentagon reluctantly agreed, since it wants to hang on to these bases as a strategic gateway to US companies and of Hormuz.

But US companies who have been bidding for the contract, which may ultimately be worth \$2 billion, are howling in protest, and the matter, according to the column Jack Anderson, is being held up pending an inter-agency review.

The matter has been further complicated, says Mr Anderson, by demands from the Omanis and their British advisers for complete access to the bases where classified material is stored. Moreover, the British office in charge of the Sultan's forces, Lt-Gen. John Watts, has reportedly insisted that the civilian contractor report directly to the Sultan's office in Oman Air Force. It is not clear whether he would report to the Americans at all.

Iraq 'plans attack' on Kurds

By Helen Graham

The Iraqi Government is moving troops and police units to the north of the country in what look like preparations for an offensive against Kurdish rebels, according to the Kurdish Democratic Party.

The Kurds have involved the transfer of a brigade from the central front and the dispatch of 7,000 paramilitary police, have been paralysed by a build-up of Turkish troops on their side of the border.

The Kurds fear that some kind of joint operation may be in prospect.

At the same time, unofficial Syrian sources say that Turkish troops have been massing on the Syrian-Iraqi border. While the Syrians have in theory an anti-Kurdish agreement with the Turks, in practice Damascus is thought to be very unhappy at recent events, while the Syrian army is tied down in Lebanon.

A concerted Turkish-Iraqi attack on Kurdish bases in the north would be felt as much by the 50,000 Kurdish refugees who have sought refuge in this "liberated" area.

Both armies have shown themselves to be ruthless towards the Kurdish population.

The Kurds have an agreement with the Iraqi Government which allows them to cross the border into Iraq for a specified distance. Brief incursions took place in 1983 and 1984 against Kurdish guerrillas.

The Turkish objective may be limited this time to controlling the border area, preventing collaboration between their own Kurdish guerrillas and Iraqi Kurdish insurgents, and, in particular, safeguarding the pipeline which is so vital to the economy.

The civil war in northern Iraq has flared up fiercely since negotiations for Kurdish autonomy with Baghdad ceased at the beginning of this year. Nearly a third of the Kurdish areas are now no longer under government control.

In the past few days, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan — the other main Kurdish guerrilla organisation — has reported heavy fighting with the Iraqi army in the region of Kirkuk, an important oil city three hours from Baghdad.

PUK claims that a battle against a brigade of the Iraqi army left 180 Iraqi soldiers killed and 200 wounded.

Heartless pirates throw mother, child into sea

From Ian Guest in Geneva

Thirty-three Vietnamese boat people have drowned or are missing and 13 women have been kidnapped, after a series of unusually brutal pirate attacks in the Gulf of Thailand.

The attacks, which took place between the middle of February and early this month, have been reported to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as it prepares for a meeting here to extend its anti-piracy programme, launched three years ago.

Twelve Western donor governments, including Britain, are expected to attend the May 22 meeting, where the UNHCR will recommend that \$2.7 million should be spent on the programme this year, down on last year's \$3.6 million.

According to the reports, five refugee boats carrying a total of 155 refugees were attacked by pirates — assumed to be Thai fishermen — in an alarming surge in piracy at a time when it seemed to be on the wane because of more vigorous action by Thai authorities.

Last year, 61 refugees were killed by pirates, compared to 70 in 1983, and 110 boat women were raped, against 152 in 1983.

In the worst of the recent incidents, a boat which left Vietnam on February 18 with 22 refugees on board was attacked the following day by pirates who seized two young women and stole two engines before ramming the refugee boat, splitting it in two. Eighteen refugees drowned, one by one, as they slipped off the wreckage, and only one survived.

Another incident on March 30, pirates attacked a boat carrying 17 refugees, after they were transferred to the pirate boat and given food, seven were then thrown overboard, including a young Vietnamese woman and her two-year-old daughter.

The 12 donors have already agreed in principle to extend the anti-piracy programme, and the new reports will undoubtedly add to their concern. But at the same time, the attacks also raise worrying questions about the efficiency of the programme, which mainly involves patrols by the Thai navy and air force.

Last year, the Thais are reported to have arrested 32 fishermen and charged them with various crimes — but not murder. Thai authorities have already identified two of the pirate boats involved in the latest attacks and made two arrests.

Reuter adds from Hong Kong: Mr Paul Hartling, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, yesterday called on Britain to take the initiative in solving Hong Kong's Vietnamese refugee problem by accepting more for resettlement.

Britain has only taken four refugees so far this year.

Mr Hartling, who arrived from China, was speaking after touring one of the colony's seven "closed" refugee camps where almost 6,000 Vietnamese live as virtual prisoners. Closed camps were set up in 1982 to deter would-be refugees from entering Hong Kong.

Since the Vietnam war ended in 1975, about 110,000 refugees have arrived here. Britain took just over 12,000, the US 80,000 and Canada just under 17,000.



Play pen: A Vietnamese child gazes through the wire of a Hong Kong refugee camp

Bombing wave rocks New Caledonian 'powder keg'

Nonamea: Three bomb blasts within six hours rocked the capital of the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia last night, blowing a hole in the Court of Justice, sinking a yacht in the marina, and damaging the entrance to a Melanesian high school.

The school blast injured four people — none seriously — and damaged nearby flats.

The bomb at the court, set under the state prosecutor's office, smashed windows and blew a hole about a yard wide in the wall. No one was hurt.

The central court blast was clearly audible in the city centre and plumes of smoke spiralled up from the building.

Vanloads of the French CRS riot police sped to the scene through streets deserted because of a curfew.

The blast at the marina took place about 30 minutes before the attack on the court. Police said the explosions were probably caused by dynamite.

A motorist was seen planting a box at the school entrance just before the explosion, police said.

After the explosion, police cordoned off the area around the school.

A small explosion slightly damaged the school at the beginning of March, but there were no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for that blast.

Witnesses said fighting broke out in a crowd which gathered around the school.

More than 20 people have died in clashes over independence and the Kanak separatist leader, Mr Jean-Marie Tjibaou, has warned that there could be a full-scale race conflict in the territory.

Shortly before the blast, a French High Commission spokesman had warned: "We're sitting on a powder keg. It's still very explosive."

— Reuter/AP.

Assembly opens

Seoul: After delays of more than a month because of political wrangling, a new South Korean National Assembly, including a militant opposition, was convened yesterday.

In an address to the session, President Chun called for stability and unity, along with "selfless dialogue" aimed at settling all issues reasonably.

The new assembly was picked in elections on February 13, and the ruling Democratic Justice Party, headed by Mr Chun, retained a comfortable majority.

One of the issues that delayed the opening of the assembly from early April centred on Opposition demands that Mr Kim Dae Jung's civil rights be restored fully.

Another opposition demand linked with Kim Dae Jung's future was that for the release of all so-called prisoners of conscience.

Another sensitive issue is the Government's recent confiscation of books and other printed material.

Troops 'massacre' Afghan civilians

Islamabad: Afghan refugees crossing the border into Pakistan have reported killings of civilians during a Soviet offensive in Laghman province last month.

Their accounts backed up earlier reports that several hundred people had been killed in Qarghai district, between Kabul and Jalalabad, in eastern Afghanistan.

The refugees recounted grisly scenes as Soviet units bayoneted, burned, and shot women, children, and old men. The Russians were also said to have looted houses and raped.

The incidents, which took place in April, appeared to be part of a wider trend towards terror tactics used by Soviet units in Afghanistan.

Western diplomats here said on April 30 that reports of Soviet atrocities rose sharply last month, as reports came from Laghman, the northern province of Kunduz and Samangan, and Herat, near the Iranian border.

Their frequency gave the impression that the Soviet army had escalated its effort to depopulate villages along routes used by guerrillas returning to fight in Afghanistan. "Many families lost most of their members," said Gul Agha, from Ghundul village, in Qarghai, north-west of Jalalabad.

Sahar Gul, the village mullah in Deh Mazang, said he buried about 15 bodies himself before fleeing to Pakistan.

"Most of them were so dismembered we could only go around collecting parts and burying them," he said.

Ghulam Sahki, aged 70, said that he and over 100 other old men were used as a shield by the troops, who marched them ahead of the soldiers when entering a village.

The commander of the Islamic fundamentalist party, Hezb-e-Islami, in Laghman, Sana Gul, said that guerrillas had taken over several dozen Afghan government posts last winter in the area, leading to the strategic Fannisher valley, further north, and the embattled Kunar valley to the east.

— Reuter.

US holds Sikhs in murder plot

From Eric Silver in New Delhi and Reuter in Washington

The US Federal Bureau of Investigation yesterday announced it had thwarted a plot by Indian Sikhs to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, during his visit to the United States in June.

The FBI said that seven individuals were arrested for a wide range of offences after the FBI broke up the plot.

The FBI director, Mr William Webster, also said that the Sikhs were planning to assassinate Bhajan Lal, the chief minister of the Indian state of Haryana, while he was visiting the US.

Mr Webster said that the FBI "determined that a group of Sikhs were plotting the assassination of chief minister Bhajan Lal" and planning guerrilla-type operations against the government of India.

In addition, they were plotting to assassinate Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, during his pending visit to the US in June.

The Government is to introduce tough new measures this week in response to the wave of bombings that killed about 80 people in Delhi and three neighbouring states at the weekend. They are expected to include stiffer penalties for possessing unauthorised arms and explosives, as well as greater freedom of operation for the army and police.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, announced the emergency legislation during an angry parliamentary debate yesterday, which took place against the backdrop of a strike that severely disrupted business activity in the capital.

Leader comment, page 10

The stoppage, called by the rightwing opposition Bharatiya Janata Party in protest against the Government's failure to curb terrorism, passed peacefully in most areas.

In one district, however, the police fired in the air and a bomb-charged a BJP demonstration. No casualties were reported, but about 170 party activists, including the local general secretary, were arrested for stoning buses.

At the end of the four-hour parliamentary debate, Home Minister, Mr S. B. Chavan, pledged that the Government would "put down" with a very heavy hand "any kind of terrorist activity, and strengthen the intelligence services, which had been severely criticised for failing to anticipate the bombings."

He did not, however, go as far as one Congress backbencher, who demanded the death penalty for anyone found to have explosives in his house.

Mr Gandhi was careful to distinguish between Sikh terrorists and the Sikh community as a whole, warning Indians against playing into the hands of the extremists who were trying to drive a wedge between Hindus and Sikhs. They had to isolate the extremists and deal firmly with them.

above what we instinctively want to do or feel must be done," the Prime Minister insisted. "We have the choice of countering a small group of extremists and terrorists by carrying the rest of the Sikhs with us. We could very easily go wrong. A small error in our discretion could turn the whole group against all of us. This is where we must show utmost restraint and patience."

The trial started five hours late because the judge did not know he was meant to be there. A defence lawyer arrived at 11.30, but angrily left when the judge and prosecution did not turn up.

The accused include Satwant Singh, one of the two bodyguards alleged to have shot Mr Gandhi.

The police were reported last night to have arrested 800 suspects in a crackdown on Sikh extremists in Punjab.

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Nigeria's aliens break out

By Michael Simmons

TENS of thousands of illegal aliens being held by Nigerian authorities in a transit camp near Lagos airport broke out yesterday and headed for the Benin frontier more than 100 miles away.

Cheering, chanting, and waving, the immigrants drove off in a makeshift convoy of lorries, buses and cars. The convoy, thought to be made up of hundreds of vehicles, forced police hastily to dismount a roadblock.

Riot police on duty near the camp gates could only stand by and watch, as they had no orders to stop the mass break-out.

The exodus was triggered as the immigrants' anger boiled over. Most are tired, hungry and destitute, and many are Ghanaians, who are unwilling to go home by sea, as Nigeria wants. There were ugly scenes earlier as police fired teargas into crowds who had been attacking them with stones and bottles.

In similar clashes at the weekend, five police were among the injured and two of them were seriously hurt. The clashes, which occurred immediately after Friday's deadline by which 700,000 aliens were to have left the country, raised fears of a repetition of the 1983 exodus, when several people were killed in disturbances following an expulsion order on nearly three million immigrants.

Then, as now, the worst incidents occurred at Apapa port near Lagos and at the airport, where the camp used for Mecca-bound pilgrims steadily filled up with increasingly angry immigrants, protesting at frontiers being closed with the expiry of the deadline.

Nigeria's promises that authorities would move as quickly as possible to move people in the camp out of the country were met with scepticism inside the camp. This turned to anger when the aliens learned that five Ghanaians had been shot dead, and several more injured, when their lorry tried to force its way across the Benin frontier.

Although five deaths were officially confirmed in Accra, they were denied by Nigerian authorities.

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The police were reported last night to have arrested 800 suspects in a crackdown on Sikh extremists in Punjab.

Koran ban thrown out

New Delhi: A High Court judge yesterday dismissed a petition calling for a ban on the Koran, the Muslim holy book, after protests about the case in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

The petition, filed by two Hindu Indians in Calcutta High Court, provoked violent demonstrations in Bangladesh and a furious reaction from the Pakistan Government.

Crowds also took to the streets of Srinagar, capital of India's mainly Muslim northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, throwing stones at traffic and shops.

The suit said the Koran should be banned because it preached hatred and violence and was inimical to the country's majority religion, Hinduism.

At 35 and after 15 years of marriage and four children, Catherine Mitchell left home to live as a lesbian. Ronit Lentin reports

How the daily lie gave way to a lonely life of truth

CATHERINE MITCHELL is a reluctant lesbian. Her story is one of someone who has struggled constantly to come to terms with her sexuality and even after leaving her comfortable home and marriage — to live the life of a lesbian rather than the lie — she still has great doubts.

Eighteen months ago, after ten years of sneaking from home to the comfort of a lesbian disco, Catherine summoned the courage to leave husband and home.

"Being lesbian was a gradual realisation," she said. "When it started to occur to me I may be lesbian it was frightening. For a long period my husband and I even joked about it, but it kept surfacing, causing me great pain."

At first Catherine had other problems. She married at 20, having become pregnant in her second year at university. "It wasn't that I didn't want to get married, but I was exchanging the crumbling stability of home with the

false stability of marriage." Then she had four children. "I liked having children and was a thorough mother. I still am, but at the beginning I was doing a lot of growing up alongside the children."

At the beginning of her marriage she suffered from severe depression and recurring suicide attempts. "There was always an inequality about my marriage. My husband was always coping while I was always on the verge of throwing myself out the bedroom window. By the time the relationship became more equal, I had discovered, or rather decided, that I'd better stop waiting around for a certificate confirming me as a lesbian and come out."

Her apparent frailty belies the great strength it took to make the decision to leave home. Having had a nice husband made it harder. "It makes me feel I am looking for trouble, choosing unhappiness and loneliness."

Five years ago Catherine had a good relationship with a woman who also had children and lived at home with a "nice" husband, but the relationship did not last. When she told her mother she was leaving home, her mother's reaction was typical. "She said I was crazy to leave such a lovely man and opt for loneliness. She doesn't know why I left but she may suspect she asked whether I had gone off men altogether."

The sad thing is that life as a member of the lesbian community does not appeal to Catherine Mitchell. "Disliking them is almost like disliking myself," she says. "I know I will have to work on it, but I am very unsatisfied with the terrible loneliness lesbians suffer and with the difficulties women have living together, not only emotionally but also from the point of view of money and housing."

"There is no support for lesbians. We cannot even walk down the street arm in

arm. People recognise us for what we are and never smile on us the way they smile on married couples. Even these small comforts are denied us. Lesbians are totally invisible."

She is concerned about the fleeting nature of lesbian relationships. "Relationships don't last because being a lesbian is so insecure, so difficult. With other lesbians there is always the danger of game playing, of trying out someone else for the night."

She would like to see lesbians being really good to each other, really aware of each other's needs, not merely dancing cheek to cheek. "There is an air of desperation about the lesbian community," she says. "Some lesbian couples I know are under terrible stress — and they are the honest ones. Others don't even admit the strains."

Catherine's husband, like so many husbands of married lesbians who come out, did

not take her sexuality seriously. "He always made out that he was willing to live with me, knowing I was lesbian. But living with him would have meant full sexual relations and I couldn't agree. He thought lesbianism was only another of my notions." In moments of despair, Catherine can imagine going back to live with her husband, "because I am so used to him, because he looked after me for such a long time and because we had good times together."

Although he had originally said he didn't mind about her involvement with other women ("being involved with another man would have been much worse"), he ended up finding it very threatening. "He knew he could not begin to compete. He could not hope to win me back by the same methods as before."

Over the last few years Catherine Mitchell has established herself at work and life seems a more stable base. She has told one person

at work but otherwise she keeps her sexuality to herself.

This interview was the first time Catherine spoke of coming out. "I still feel very shaky," she says. "My irrational fear is that I would lose the children. My husband and I have joint custody and I believe he is genuine about it, but I am afraid that if they found out, they'd reject me. We are a very comfortably middle-class family and being lesbian is definitely beyond the pale. Apart from this, what woman is going to be able to fit into my life with the four of them around?"

"It's impossible for lesbians not to live in the clouds," Catherine says. She spent ten years dreaming how wonderful it would be to have a relationship with a woman, but so far, all her relationships have been short lived.

She doesn't see herself fitting into the lesbian stereotype. "I didn't fit into the heterosexual wife stereotype. I

used to look from the outside when we spent time with other married couples and now I look from the outside on the lesbian scene. You do need the support of other like-minded people but I cannot imagine what sort of a partner I would have."

Recently she was involved with a woman from abroad. "She left just recently and I am still moaning the failure. The sex was wonderful — after years of feeling sexually inadequate in my marriage. I was thrilled, but for her a relationship based on good sex was not enough."

Catherine Mitchell is still ambivalent about being lesbian. "On the one hand I want to shout it from the rooftops but on the other I feel terribly secretive and frightened. As long as I feel secretive, there is a sense in which I am not accepting my sexuality. I cannot stop thinking of all the people who are close to me and how threatening my being a lesbian could be for them."

ANN HERCUS'S visiting card must be unique. "Minister, says the copperplate, of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs." The address, tiny to the point of illegibility, is Parliament House, Wellington, New Zealand.

Somewhat ironically, Ann Hercus (a newish Labour incumbent) has just spent two weeks in Britain with ministers and officials (appointees of the Thatcher government) picking up tips in a Britain where the police can be pigs and where social workers, in recent times anyway, seem only to be scapegoats.

Her crowded timetable included nothing substantial on women's affairs, but that is an area where thinking New Zealanders say they have the edge anyway; they were the first in the world to give women the vote. But there was a quarter of an hour for Mrs Thatcher, with whom she has unfairly been compared, enough to hear PM's questions in the House of Commons. Mrs Hercus is seen by some to be Prime Minister material.

Like Thatcher she has a husband (principal of a polytechnic), two children (sons), and two degrees. Like Thatcher one degree was in law. Hercus also graduated in English. She is something of an authority on Jane Austen and George Eliot.

"I barely remember politics being discussed when I was a child," she says. "Involvement came only with university, and commitment was later still. I didn't join the Labour Party till I was 27."

Nine years later she became an MP, but was held up on the day her first victory was announced because her son wanted help with an essay on Hamlet. Last July, David Lange, sophisticated iconoclast Prime Minister, astonished her — or so she says — by asking her to take on the police portfolio as well as social welfare and women. She is now 43.

"I determined on a political course when I was organising protests just outside Wellington. I kept coming up against Government policy which got in the way of funding. When I was running the Christchurch



Michael Simmons meets Ann Hercus, a late starter in politics but now a minister in New Zealand's Labour government and bearing a formidable collection of responsibilities

Minister with a packed portfolio

branch of the Society for Research on Women. I kept hearing people say: 'Does the Government take any notice?'

"This mattered, and particularly to a Scottish Presbyterian like myself. I don't like to see things or people wasted," she said.

Though she was a late political starter, she is a natural politician. In some people are natural athletes. To which one should add that she is also an accomplished sportswoman.

"I bring the same values to all three of my portfolios. I also love the work. They'll have to prime me out with a pneumatic drill if they want me to go," she said.

In all, her responsibilities cover roughly 30 per cent of the national budget. Reforms she has already initiated include earlier retirement for the police, a new family allowance scheme, and the setting up of a brand new "small but high-powered" Department of State to deal with women's affairs.

She sits on five cabinet committees, whose briefs range from foreign policy, through social equity, to terrorism.

"With the police," she declares with a smile, "I am enormously popular..."

That is a reference to the early retirement programme. The smile vanishes when she speaks of the rugby riots of 1981, which alienated the people from their police and family members from one another over whether or not the Springboks should be allowed to play on New Zealand soil. Hundreds were arrested and many hurt by the violence brought on by the demonstrations.

"For the first time in our history we had New Zealanders pitted against New Zealanders, with the police and their long batons in the middle. It left a bad taste about the police."

More demonstrations are expected in the next few weeks when an England team arrives to play a New Zealand side which has set its heart on touring South Africa in August.

Ann Hercus has secured extra funds (about £15 million) to police these demos, but she will also be marching at their head alongside David Lange himself. She knows about rugby; her brother was an All Black.

In social services, she is giving priority to children's needs. She aims to set up what she calls a "very pleasant jigsaw" of homes in the community for those needing special care, and to close down what "institutions" she can. Children's rights are increasingly

an issue she looks forward to grappling with.

For the country's women, for whom she has actively and publicly campaigned for almost 20 years, the new government is a cause for optimism. Statistically New Zealand's women are stronger for Labour than their men-folk: keener on the anti-nuclear stance; more vociferous against apartheid; as well as the more familiar feminist issues.

But many remain timid about their rights. There are still women who consult their husbands on voting intentions, who follow their husbands in their thinking about social issues. There is still a lot of conservatism, with a small c, in the "average" New Zealander.

The new Ministry of Women's Affairs she is moulding will therefore have its work cut out. Women's meetings held on Labour Party issues, and last year's election showed surprising unanimity on what priorities should be, and this knowledge, coupled with a knowledge of how legislation is framed, has helped in shaping the new department.

It will be in two parts — one part monitoring and initiating policies, including government policies, from the woman's point of view. The other part, social issues, will be both "outreach and inreach," taking issues of government concern to women to get their views — at local meetings, through radio phone-ins in every way that is feasible. "We want to be as responsive as possible to their needs."

In all this activity, she backs, and is backed by, David Lange one hundred per cent. She throws herself wholeheartedly into her work, her chief worry, if she has one, being the effect on her sons. Both, with her husband, will campaign for her if and when the next election comes. So, too, will her "non-political" parents, now in their seventies. "They will toddle around," she says, "and they will deliver. With one child an All Black and another a Cabinet Minister, they haven't done badly."

Information that could help the victim of a mugger

LETTERS

I READ Lisa Spry-Leverson's article. This is no way to treat a victim. May I say that the London underground on route to a meeting at the DHSS in South-east London. Within four minutes of tucking the Guardian into my brief case, I also was the victim of a violent assault. In this case, the good looking young man wanted my money. When I took the opposite view, our physical disagreement left me dirty, bleeding, bruised and penniless, ten miles from home.

I have no complaints about the kindness of passers-by, the people I was meeting at the DHSS, the police. But, like Lisa Spry-Leverson, I realised the enormous private pain and suffering in being robbed in this way. I felt loss of face at being a victim. I was street-wise, canny — so I thought, I know I

will look over my shoulder, shrink at any sudden contact for years to come.

But I also think, in retrospect, things can be done. Why has nobody produced a simple leaflet to be available in every police station, outpatients' department, citizens advice bureau or indeed any place to which people come in distress or for information on what to do if you have been attacked and robbed?

Simple information doesn't heal cuts or replace your lost confidence, but it does make life easier when a bump on the head makes any decision confusing. Equally most victims need some information on their likely feelings after an attack.

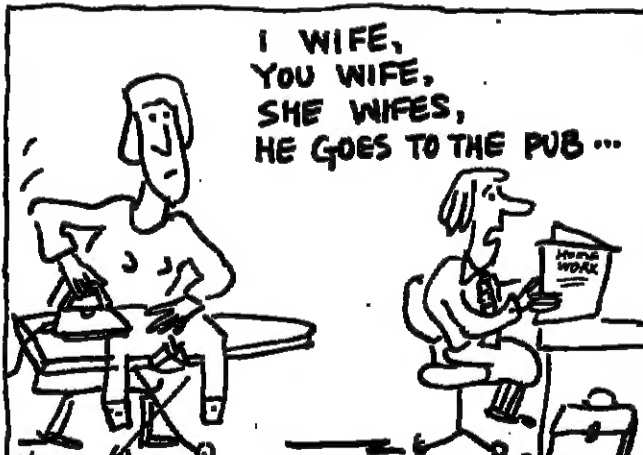
My Danish su pair showed me exactly what I should have done right at the first disastrous encounter. But she, like most of her peers, studied self-defence in school. Perhaps we should recognise the hazards and put martial arts (or at least creative

defence) much higher on the curriculum. Philippa Russell, London, N6.

Stand up for the nannies

IN HER article (April 30), Lindsay Mackie speaks glibly of an ideal world where there is collective childcare, parents cooperative, shorter working hours and flexible time for parents, thus eradicating the need for private child care.

And what of the nannies? Should we close up this large source of employment for this group of independent and responsible young women who enjoy looking after children? No, indeed. Out with Ms Mackie's brand of parental chauvinism! In with nannies' cooperatives and nannies' collectives. Let them organise pay scales and conditions of work and be appreciated for the valuable work they do. — Yours sincerely, Maria Fitzgerald, London, WC1.



AS a nanny and a trade union member, I welcomed many of the points made in Lindsay Mackie's article about the pay and conditions of service of nannies, though of course nannies are not unique among women workers in terms of low status, low pay and poor conditions.

There are good and bad points in nannying, just as there are in journalism or hairdressing. The problem is that nannies, since they are not organised, are open to exploitation. Judging from the response of my trade union when I joined, I must be one of the few nannies who is a union member.

There is nothing about caring for a child which is somehow less noble than going down a coal mine. The problem is one of getting unions interested in unionising nannies, getting them proper pay and conditions of service and incorporating nannies where they belong as part of the caring services.

There is no reason why caring for a child on an individual basis should not be incorporated into training for other sorts of caring work, though before any of this can be of any use and help to the childcare profession, please, nannies, we are contributing an awful lot to the childcare environment — use your work experience — that is, if you class your post as a job. — Yours sincerely, Annette Aird, London EC1.

The mysterious art of wifeing

I WOULD like to query a phrase in the letterheadlined "Condemned to live with a car, a cleaner and a swimming pool" (May 7). The point which puzzles me is: "Most weekends, whilst nanny is free, I wash, clean, cook, mother, chauffeur and wife to the best of my ability."

Most mothers wash, clean, cook, etc., but how on earth

does one wife? When I am around my husband I sort of live and breathe and talk, but I did all those things before I got married.

Fear I am failing to perform some role and any tips on the craft of wifeing would be gratefully received. Does he mean she brushes the dandruff off her husband's shoulders, whilst gazing into his face for signs of strain? Or is it sex she means? I am intrigued. Sheena G. Hunt, Bristol.

Top ranking for admired Miss P

AS A young black reader and an avid admirer of Ranking Miss P, I was pleased to see her in the top 100 (April 25). The interview was sensitively written and managed to capture the magic of Miss P. — I feel I can identify with her.

It was good for myself and others to read of a young black woman who is successful in her own particular art. The young, black people and women have, until recently, been under-represented in quality newspapers.

More of this type of article may extend your readership, help change attitudes towards certain groups and create a positive climate in which to live. — Yours sincerely, Susan Rigg, Birmingham.

In praise of the NHS in Aberdeen

RUTH Wishart's article on Aberdeen's success at screening for cervical cancer (May 6) has prompted me to write of my recent experience in this city.

On a routine visit to a family planning clinic in January this year, I was found to have an enlarged womb and told I needed to see a gynaecologist. I saw my GP the next day and within two weeks had an appointment to see a consultant at the hospital. He diagnosed a fibroid and recommended a hysterectomy.

He performed the operation exactly when he said he would and I received excellent care and attention. I know I am lucky to be living in Aberdeen where such quality care is available on the NHS. Patricia Wood, Aberdeen.

Naked ape

WITH the exception of female staff prone to fainting, an ambulance must be called for anyone collapsing.

Borough of Sunderland, first aid emergency procedure. (James Swan, Newcastle upon Tyne.)

Tart tricked

A PROSTITUTE was threatened and robbed by a client at the back of council flats in Ultham Road, Farnborough last Friday. He threatened to kill her with a screwdriver.

Stratham & Tooting News. (Paul Stephenson, London SW17.)

A large car park at the front of the Park Gate shop makes shopping so much easier and the gentlemen especially appreciate being able to hop out of their cars and straight into the shop.

Spotlight Magazine advertisement. (Christine Piddock, Southampton.)

If husband and wife are working together she can break the stones and wheel them to where her husband is working, while he gets on with the actual construction.

Tavistock Gazette. (Ruth Charlton, Devon.)

THE UGLY SISTER

A HOTEL bedroom. A woman speaking on the telephone. She says: "This is me."

"Where've you been? What's happened?" a man asks.

"No, don't ask. I rang to tell you I'm not coming back. It's all over."

"What do you mean? Where are you? Are you with someone?"

"It's no good. It's all over. I'm not coming back. Don't try to make me. I don't want to see you again, do you hear me?"

"At least come home and we'll talk it over. You owe me that, at least," he says.

"There's no point. We can't talk. That's the whole trouble. All these years and it's always been the same, we can't talk. There's nothing going to change that now."

"Is there someone else?"

"That's not the point. It's us. We just can't communicate, and I can't live like that any more. Two people who can't talk to each other is ridiculous. Statistically New Zealand's women are stronger for Labour than their men-folk: keener on the anti-nuclear stance; more vociferous against apartheid; as well as the more familiar feminist issues."

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"You see, you're still not hearing a word I'm saying."

"And we always did what you said, so how can you say I didn't listen to you?"

"You didn't. You never, never talked to me about important things. Not the things that matter to me. You never even tried to find out what they were. It's my good. We couldn't communicate then, and we can't now."

He says: "But what do you mean? I always took an interest. I never forgot to ask if you'd had a good day, if the children had been good, if the weather'd been good. I went out of my way to take an interest in what you did."

"You never asked once about me. Not once. You checked everything was all right, but you never, ever, talked to me. Not like to another human being. Like you did to the dog. That's not communicating. You never even listened when I tried to tell you what I wanted."

"But you always told me what you wanted. I didn't have to ask. You said when you wanted to have children, and move house, and where you wanted me to kiss you, then, and when you wanted the garden paved. You always told me, and I did it. I call that communication."

"You see, you're doing it again. You're not communicating. You don't even know what I'm talking about. Do you? It's been the same all the time we've been together. You just never talked to me."

"But you can't leave me now. We're part of each other. We're used to each other. What shall I do without you to talk to?"

"Well, I'm not coming back. It was a sham, a relationship without communication. I've got to go. Goodbye."

"Mmmmmmm, darling." "Issy Big Daddy happy then?" "Ooooh!" "Eeeeeeek! Whassy want?" "Uhh! Uhh! Uhh! Yeh?" "Ooooh!" "Shhh, don't talk."

"Mmmh! Yes, yes, yes, ooooh!"

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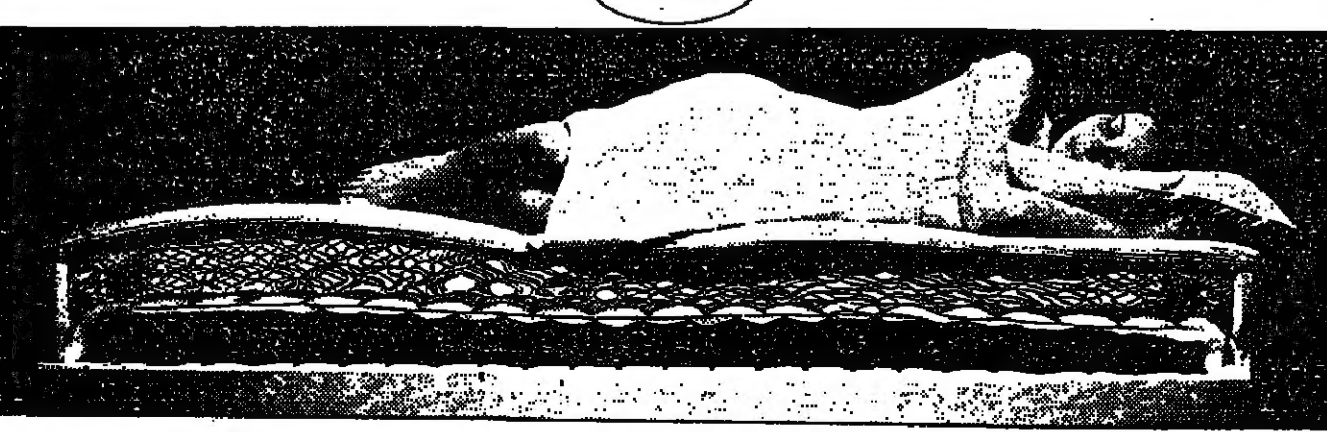
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Mr Brittan tacks too much together

Before Bradford City's wooden stand went up in flames on Saturday, it was possible to argue that the biggest and most urgent problem facing football crowds was the problem of hooliganism. It has indeed been a terrible year for soccer violence. Games involving particularly notorious clubs, such as Leeds, Chelsea and Millwall have been consistently threatened. This hooliganism reached a horrible climax at Birmingham on Saturday, when Leeds, yet again, were the visitors. A young man from Northampton, attending his first ever match, was killed when a wall at St Andrews collapsed and, as the Home Secretary reported to the Commons yesterday, 125 arrests were made, 96 police officers required medical attention and 80 spectators were also treated. An element of moral panic there may be, but crowd violence at football matches has reached intolerable levels by any decent standards.

Over the years, however, there have been many sincere attempts to deal with such violent behaviour. Yet no one can say with any confidence that they have been the right solutions. Yesterday, Mr Leon Brittan appointed Mr Justice Popplewell to try again, by referring to him the events at Birmingham on Saturday. Perhaps the judge will succeed where others have failed. But the persistent intractability of the hooliganism issue, awful though it is, suggests that the Popplewell inquiry will have to search long and hard for new and effective answers. That is why it was a mistake for the Home Secretary to elide the Birmingham events and the Bradford disaster into one inquiry in his announcement yesterday. The appalling fire at Bradford has transformed public awareness of an entirely distinct issue from hooliganism, namely the ghastly lack of safety for spectators packed into combustible grandstands without proper means of escape in emergencies. There is already an alarming amount of evidence that Valley Parade was not alone

in allowing large crowds to congregate in a tinder-box. At least 10 other football league grounds, and a host of other sporting venues are vulnerable to the inconceivable horror which struck Bradford on Saturday.

For that reason, Mr Brittan was absolutely right to announce a full inquiry into the facts and the general lessons of the Bradford fire. But this inquiry itself will be a considerable task for Mr Justice Popplewell and his team. In the first place, there is a mass of evidence to assemble. More than that, there is a real urgency for the inquiry to identify other grandstands and grounds where equivalent danger lurks. This is true for the summer sports which are now getting under way. But the start of the next football season is only three months away, too. And, with the designation of English lower league grounds under the safety licensing legislation announced by the Home Secretary yesterday, these clubs face real and immediate problems of advice and money if they are to be able to open their gates to the public in August. Of course, this aspect of the Popplewell inquiry will have to examine the related issues of crowd safety and crowd control — and this will have implications and connections for a strategy to deal with crowd violence. But the immediate task must be to lay down the ground rules and to supply the money to make the stadiums safe for spectators. That is quite enough for one inquiry to be going on with. It looks very much at this stage as though Mr Brittan has combined the two issues to protect the Prime Minister's political amour propre. By all means let the inquiry examine hooliganism in due course. But first things should come first. And the shattering events at Valley Parade are the priority.

No comfort for Kohl

The result of Sunday's election of a new parliament in North Rhine-Westphalia, West Germany's largest federal state with a third of the national electorate, is the worst political setback for the Chancellor, Dr Kohl, since he came to power in Bonn late in 1982. Results at German municipal, state and federal levels tend to be close with the odd percentage-point shift often proving de-

cisive. In these conditions Sunday's 75 per cent poll (shamefully for such as ourselves) has to be described as low; and the fall of nearly 7 per cent of the total vote suffered by Dr Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) verges, on the cataclysmic. By not only hanging on to their absolute majority in the state but also increasing their share of the total vote by nearly 4 per cent, the Social Democrats (SPD), who are in opposition at federal level in Bonn, can claim a resounding triumph in the most important poll between federal elections.

The campaigns fought by the two big parties could hardly have been more different. The SPD focused overwhelmingly on the personality of their state prime minister for the past seven years, Mr Johannes Rau, who is therefore extremely well placed now to move to centre-stage in federal politics. The CDU tried to cash in on their federal predominance and the associated bonus of holding the chancellorship, which entailed undue attention to national and neglect of local issues. Dr Kohl beamed from as many hoardings across the state as did Dr Bernhard Worms, the unfortunate CDU candidate for the premiership, but they were not depicted together. This was no accident. Dr Kohl imposed Dr Worms on the local party at the expense of at least one other much stronger candidate and simultaneously distanced himself from his nominee in case things went wrong. At the same time the CDU's attempt to blame relatively high local unemployment on the SPD state government backfired, as the Chancellor was the first to admit. Clearly many CDU voters succumbed to defeatism and stayed at home while a significant number of others transferred their allegiance. The CDU dug its own grave, and the SPD was only too pleased to complete the obsequies.

The Liberal FDP will be hugely relieved to get back into the state parliament with 6.4 per cent of the total vote. At the last election in 1980 it narrowly failed to get the minimum five per cent necessary for entry. The recent change in the FDP's federal leadership and support from CDU sympathisers concerned for the welfare of the CDU-FDP coalition in Bonn probably combined to produce this minimal restoration of the party's fortunes after a series of corruption scandals. But the result hardly heralds a glorious new dawn: at best it

provides a breather in a long struggle for survival. The failure of the environmentalist Greens to surmount the five per cent hurdle in a state where heavy industry predominates is an unqualified disaster for them. The nationwide internal row between the fundamentalists and the pragmatists who want to coalesce with the SPD has gone on too long, and recent Green contact with terrorists and advocacy of child sex were probably less than beneficial. Their days may now be numbered.

North Rhine-Westphalia thus emerges in 1985 with a parliament which is a throw-back to West German politics of the sixties and seventies before the Greens had to be taken seriously. The SPD now knows it can win a major election under a leader from its own moderate right. The CDU has been punished for complacency, unemployment, welfare cuts and probably also for the Bitburg cemetery fiasco and faces a struggle to retain power in Bonn after the next federal election in 1987. From the polluted environment of the Ruhr comes a blast of fresh air to enliven the stuffy atmosphere in Bonn.

The Dutch flock grow restive

It is not Calvinists taking their cue from Pastor Jack Glass or the Rev. Ian Paisley who are throwing the Coke bottles (metaphorically and perhaps literally) at the Pope mobile, but card-carrying Roman Catholics. One meaning of this novelty is that nobody is debarred from expressing anxieties about the present Pontificate simply on the ground that the doctrines of the Church are a matter for Catholics alone. For it is evident in Holland that the religious and the secular intertwine and that a large proportion of the Pope's flock (60 per cent in a recent poll) cannot accept all the secular implications of his teaching. If they are free to criticise the ill effects of religious conservatism so, a fortiori, is everybody else.

The Pope's defenders would say that in public matters he is himself a liberation theologian giving a high priority, many times expressed, to the equality of people and their emancipation from oppressive sys-

tems, whether Communist or capitalist. It is in matters of personal conduct, especially sexual ones, that he applies the emphatic veto of the Holy See. That is partly true. To the extent that it is, Catholics may have a grievance rather than a legitimate complaint. Those who are unhappy with the club rules and regulations can either leave and play somewhere else or try to change them, as Dutch Church people, taking their lead from Schillebeeckx, have been doing in the Roman Church.

But there are impediments to the second course within the Church and there are areas where the distinction between public and private is much less sharp. John Paul is a very centrist Pope. Witness his imposition of conservative bishops on Dutch dioceses which would prefer more radical ones. Witness the summonses which go out to errant priests and theologians to attend the Vatican and explain themselves. The effect of this close central direction is that the scope for movement is blocked off. The Catholic Church allows little room for what in political parlance would be constitutional change or legislative reform. It is now seeing results identical with those which secular powers experience when they do likewise. Moreover, in reinforcing theocratic rules about the position of women in the Church, the Vatican inevitably says something about their position in the world at large. In this respect the Pope's guidance is seen as not much more liberated, allowing for the cultural differences between a Pole and a Persian, than that of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

That these controversies should surface in Holland is unsurprising, and tickets for this particular outing have not, by all accounts, been in strong demand among the Pope's entourage. The Roman Church there possess a high degree of talent and self-confidence. It has had to fend for itself against the historically dominant Calvinists. That competition is over and the two groups show a healthy mutual regard. It is partly this which has enabled the Catholics to turn their attention to what they see as the shortcomings of their own Church and to pin their hopes on a detente with headquarters issuing from Vatican II. So far those hopes, for many, have been disappointed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Selling a birthright

Sir.—The privatisation of British Gas is not "daff" as suggested in your Leader (May 8): it is corrupt.

The handing over to private interests for private profit of a raw material of incalculable value — billions upon billions of pounds — is corruption on a scale not seen in this country since the 18th century. It is a grotesque abuse of democratic power to enrich a minority of the people at the expense of all the rest.

It is cynical dishonesty to pretend that this is an exercise in property sharing open to everyone — how many of the nine million pensioners, one and a half million one-parent families, four million folk on supplementary benefit, 10 million low paid workers will be able to buy shares in British Gas.

Even if, peradventure, some two million citizens end up "owning" a share in British Gas that will leave 53 million who from then on will be helping to line the pockets of the favoured few and those few will not be the poorest of the poor.

In fact most of them will almost certainly be the political supporters of the Tory party with a fat bribe in their pockets to persuade them, come hell and high water (and five million unemployed), to back Thatcher to the hilt.

The public swindle of the sales of Amersham, Acre, space, Telecom, were evil in themselves but those businesses were made real; natural gas is a resource made by no man and belongs to the people, all the people, like any other. If privatisation goes through, and I hope it will be blocked, it will be the biggest theft on record.—Yours faithfully, Frank Hooley, 6 Maryland Drive, Sutton Coldfield.

Miscellany at large

Sir.—It must be the ultimate slap in the face for a dedicated National Health Service employee to receive with her wage slip an advert for a private health insurance scheme. Coca-Cola do not invite their employees to drink Pepsi.

Mary Sawtell, London SE17.

Sir.—Your correspondent, Margaret Dibben, is misleading on the subject of Eurocheques (May 11).

A month ago we found two different reactions on successive nights in France. At one hotel (in the large Napolet chain) Eurocheques were not accepted at all. At the other, payment by Eurocheque required a surcharge of 20 francs.

In both cases the reason was the high charge levied on the hotel by the French bank.—Yours faithfully, I. D. M. Reid, Surrey.

Sir.—The teachers seem unlikely to obtain Government approval for their pay claim being neither wealthy (in the main), entrepreneurs, police nor members of the armed forces.

It might be noticed, however, that two of the Government's groups of "favourite

Is the price of nuclear power worth paying?

Sir.—Just how gullible does the National Radiation Protection Board think the general public is? Anthony Tucker reports (May 9) that they admit the house dust near Sellafield contains 6,000 times the plutonium in Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Yet they still maintain there is "no cause for alarm."

They still make comparisons with "natural background," when, surely, most people now know that any plutonium — a man-made element — is unnatural.

One wonders where the plutonium comes from in Oxfordshire and Berkshire — Aldermaston and Burghfield. It supposed to be from the old atmospheric bomb testing.

Breathing and swallowing plutonium particles must clearly be connected with

cases of leukemia — plutonium follows strontium and calcium into the bones and radiates the marrow. The fact that all the hot-spots for leukemia do not occur near nuclear facilities would indicate that radioactive particles emitted accidentally or on purpose can drift long distances in quite concentrated form. When I lived in Vermont, there were rises in leukemia incidence that seemed to correlate with the Nevada/Utah bomb testing.

What the authorities who are prolonging this clumsy cover-up really want to tell us is that the number of victims will still be small, and the sort of risk is on a par with the road accidents we are so accustomed to, which occur with a statistical certainty as a result of our obsession with speed.

They really needn't be that worried. I doubt if there'll be a mass emigration from the Sellafield area. People accept statistical risks with great equanimity — there are large populations on the fertile soils near active volcanoes and in earthquake zones.

But it would be helpful if the nuclear authorities would stop the cover-up, would admit the risk, and would ask the public, through the Government, to decide if the benefits from nuclear power and nuclear defence are worth this small extra number of casualties.

To my mind, the risk of total extermination from a nuclear-based defence is far too high. And I suspect we could carry on very well without the small contribution to the national grid

from the nuclear power stations.—Yours faithfully, Roger Franklin, Horsley, Stroud.

Sir.—Am I alone among your readers in feeling a sense of irritation when I read the words "Sellafield (formerly Windscale)" in the Guardian? It has become a knee-jerk cliché. Years ago your science correspondent voiced the suspicion that the Atomic Energy Authority changed the name Windscale to Sellafield in order to mislead the public, since then, the Guardian has never ceased to remind us.

I have never for you. There is a village on the Cumbrian coast called Sellafield. The atomic site was built near it at Windscale. My 1982 Ordnance Survey still distinguishes the two places; one

where people live, one where people work. When you are discussing people's homes, and the radioactivity in vacuum cleaned house-dirt, you should not add "formerly Windscale" to the name of the village.

In fact the house-dirt samples discussed in Anthony Tucker's article (May 9) were not from Sellafield, but from St Bees Gosforth, Raven-glass and Seascale.

Who would guess after glancing at the headline "Tests on house dust reveal plutonium levels 6000 higher in houses at Sellafield" — that the highest figures encountered in the testing are almost negligible and only amount to one fifth of the background radiation from nature itself?—Yours truly, L. Rose, Warton, Carnforth.

Earth work

Sir.—Your excellent report on soil erosion, and in particular, the situation in Somerset (May 9), fails only to put the problem in a political context. Colbourne and Staines, as you note in passing, work for the Soil Survey of England and Wales. This is the only government body that documents erosion and attempting to assess its impact. Thanks to this work, and some done in academic institutions, we now know that erosion in Britain is serious and increasing. We know also that its incidence is strongly correlated with the growing of winter-sown cereals. We are subsidising farmers to the tune of £358 million per year to grow these crops and we are spending £100 million per year on storing unwanted surpluses.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Agriculture refuses to take much interest in erosion. They cannot claim ignorance since apart from Soil Survey figures there will, by September, have been three conferences in a ten-month period on erosion in Britain.

A Government reaction to the problem of erosion has consisted of announcing a 50 per cent cut in support for the Soil Survey in 1986.

Soils are vital to our agricultural future and we need unbiased data such as that of Colbourne and Staines in order to formulate soil conservation policies. John Boardman (Dr), Brighton Polytechnic.

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A COUNTRY DIARY

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES: The Bank holiday weekend brought a succession of sunny days but, apparently, lower temperatures than my home county of Cheshire had enjoyed. However spring was further advanced with the horse chestnuts decked with white candles, many wild flowers in bloom which had not yet appeared in the North, and hundreds of swallows flying high above a reservoir. In Richmond Park a blackcap was in song, and both mallard and coot were accompanied by downy youngsters. Green woodpeckers laughed repeatedly without giving us a sight of them, although we did find a pair in Ashdown Forest on the following day.

Victory night celebrations that led to a lady's downfall

Sir.—Postscript to last week's VE-Day reminiscences and razzamatazz: evidently the Queen and I had something in common that day — determination to go out and join in the fun, preferably anonymously.

I was 15 at the time and a scholar of Cheltenham Ladies' College. The school was so prim that we were not allowed even to wear red, white and blue rosettes to mark the great day; and we were effectively "confined to barracks" (presumably to preserve our ladyhood). I had other ideas. Assuming it had been "the war to end all wars" and that it would never call to me to celebrate the termination of another, I decided that night to go out "on the town."

I climbed out of a window and (not wearing my school uniform) rode around the town on a US army jeep. Later I was picked up by a young factory worker who showed me the sights, saw me home and kissed me goodnight at about 3 a.m. I went back through the window into St Austin's (my "house") only to discover my absence had been noted.

My "house lady" was awailing me. I was suspended from College and a foretaste of my 10 (so far) prison sentences — put in virtual incommunicado detention in the school sanatorium. My scholarship was removed for "bad behaviour."

Two tell-tale faces of famine

Sir.—Mahmood Mamdani's anecdote about a fat man and a thin man (Third World Review, May 10) derives from a public exchange between G.B. Shaw and G.K. Chesterton. Said Chesterton: "To see you, Mr Shaw, one would think there was a famine in the land." To which Shaw replied: "And looking at you, Mr Chesterton, one would know who to blame."

I first heard the story from a great-nephew of mine who knew both Shaw and Chesterton and actually attended the meeting at which the exchange took place. It was a great pity if this exchange were to become part of the collected attributions of Anon.—Yours, Robert Tarpin, 4 Westbourne Road, Peverell, Plymouth.

Sir.—I first heard the fat man/thin man anecdote in a Government reaction to the problem of erosion has consisted of announcing a 50 per cent cut in support for the Soil Survey in 1986.

Soils are vital to our agricultural future and we need unbiased data such as that of Colbourne and Staines in order to formulate soil conservation policies. John Boardman (Dr), Brighton Polytechnic.

four." What price freedom? Pat Arrowsmith, London NE.

Sir.—It was with some dismay and despair at the ignorance of the young presenter and the experienced reviewer that I read Nancy Banks-Smith's usually amusing TV Column (May 9) which commented on the BBC's VE-Day Breakfast Time programme.

She said Mike Smith held up a small tin of snook and explained "it was whole meat!"

While I hold no special brief for South Africa, snook was one of that country's vital contributions to the Empire's war effort at a time of great need.

Snook was and remains, a barbaconda or pike-type fish which handled correctly by anyone with a culinary talent can be quite a delicacy! Bobby Naidoo, Reform Club, Pall Mall, London SW1.

Sir.—Full credit to the media in general for their celebration of the end of the war in Europe anniversary. I wonder if equal coverage will be given to the defeat of the Japanese. This of course being the true end of the war. Hopefully the 14th army will not further continue to be called the forgotten army.—Yours sincerely, R.W. Holmes, (Burmah Veteran), Redcar, Cleveland.

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an aboriginal settlement in Australia's Northern Territory. As an anecdote about the then premier, Sir Robert Menzies (who was fat), it appears also among specimen guides to idiomatic conversation in foreign languages, real or invented.

It appears in the latter form in Anders Olson's *How to Speak with Ling* (Stockholm 1950). Another doomed attempt to spread a new international lingo. Your readers may care to try the original version.

"Major Bernard Shaw met gras chesteron. 'kan un vid ju,' dik chesteron, 'un pov kred ke es famin in grand brit.' 'e kan un vid ju,' respond g b s. 'un pov kred ju av kaus lo.'—Yours faithfully, Peter Black, 57 The Avenue, Wraybury, Berkshire.

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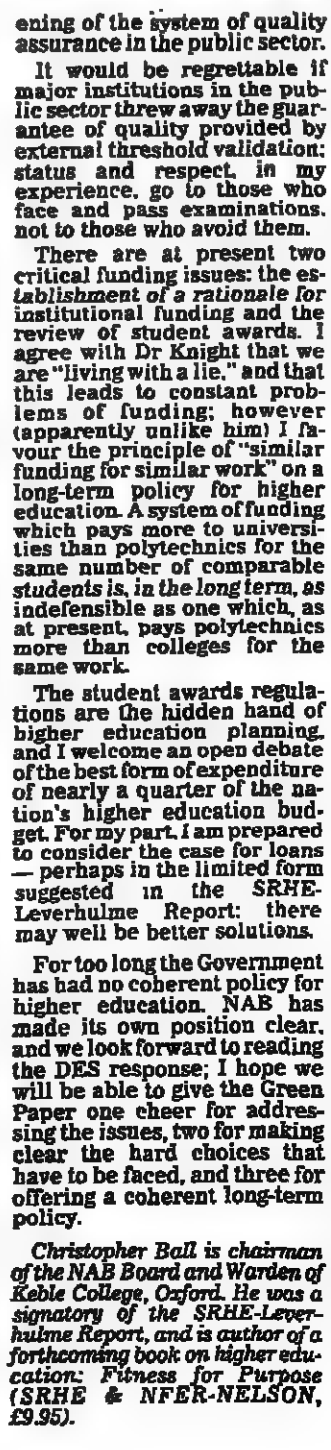
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Soils are vital to our agricultural future and we need unbiased data such as that of Colbourne and Staines in order to formulate soil conservation policies. John Boardman (Dr), Brighton Polytechnic.

Sir.—The teachers seem unlikely to obtain Government approval for their pay claim being neither wealthy (in the main), entrepreneurs, police nor members of the armed forces.

It might be noticed, however, that two of the Government's groups of "favourite





School trips in safety

A MORE professional approach to safety is needed on school outings, argues a Farnham teacher, Martin Lynch. Friends of his saw the great wave at Land's End.

When a school journey is planned, he writes, attention usually settles on four areas: educational value; cost; travel arrangements; suitable accommodation. Experienced organisations offer to cope with all these aspects and to advise on insurance. There are regulations governing the ratio of staff to pupils. The choice of staff is left to the head teacher. Provided the finances are handled to the satisfaction of the school, a sensible disciplinarian is included in the leadership, there seem to be no more worries.

Generally, I am amazed at how confidently parents commit their children into teachers' care. At present, most school parties are organised by men and women who are experts in teaching

but amateurs in conducting parties on visits. As a professional approach, we need to insist on a more professional approach.

Teaching in familiar surroundings in school or even taking local trips is one thing, but for teachers and children alike to travel to areas completely unknown to all of them, even in their own country, is quite another.

Inside each school there has to be a safety officer. This idea needs to be extended. No school party should be allowed to leave the premises without one of its leaders being specifically responsible for safety. He or she should have to have a certificate of approved training. This should be issued after an inspection course and be updated with annual refreshers. He should be obliged to experience beforehand any proposed journey and follow the itinerary without children, to investigate possible hazards and to advise on sensible precautions.

No-one doubts the value of a well-run school visit. It is time that the organisation was done by properly trained and rewarded people.

I do not know what difference it would have made at Land's End if there had been the kind of "safety officer" that I am proposing. The leader of that party has my sympathy when he is reported to have said that he had not been told that sea was dangerous in this way. Even locals have been similarly swept away. To have known would not necessarily have been to prevent. But I am sure that a safety officer visiting the area first without children and asking the right questions might have been better prepared.

Now dry your hands

ACCORDING to the people who have had their hands dry, the vast majority of Britain's secondary schools have no facilities for the drying of hands. Apparently, caretakers, fed up with the floods

caused by lavatories being stuffed with paper towels, simply stopped supplying them. If they didn't end up down the lavatory, anyway, they all too frequently landed up as a soggy mess on the floor. Rollers towels were no better. Not only were they easy to vandalise, but they were sometimes used to demonstrate hanging techniques on some unfortunate pupil.

The source of all this information is the education accounts manager for Warner Howard, Mr Kevin Clarke. He spends a lot of his time, nationally, trying to convince local authorities they should install his company's dryers in their schools.

The cost of paper towels, if used regularly, can be staggering. Berkshire primary head, John Pease, carried out a feasibility study with 60 children. They got through 400 paper towels before the end of the day. This, when applied to a school of 250, works out at around £4.4 per child per year — being not much less than his capitation of furniture fittings and equipment.

Mr Clarke continues his campaign against dirty hands with some success. Oxfordshire has just finished installing 250 machines, and Stockport is putting them into all secondary schools. And the cost, he maintains, is less than £1 per child per year. Of 4,000 machines around the country, only one to date has been vandalised.

AN unusual educational course has started at Goldsmiths' College in South-east London. "The principle of the course," says the promotional literature, "is that people do not want or need to be taught things."

Those invited to take part, free and with a free lunch thrown in, are the unemployed and homeless. Thirty such students turned up at the first of the five weekly meetings last Tuesday. Goldsmiths' estimates that there are 1,400 or so homeless people in its local area.



Bargain of the week: see Learning in store

What did the tutor, Andy Evans, offer to students who did not want or need to be taught? The answer is, a discussion and an exchange of experiences.

They did talk about how to get by when unemployed and homeless, but to the tutor's surprise, they also wanted to talk about poetry.

No need to look for this course. Just turn up at 6 o'clock today and the following three Tuesdays at the brown door to the left of No. 6 Levensham Way. Next to Mecca Bookmakers.

Learning in store

A NEW all-purpose shop has sprung up in Highbury, north-east London. Its peculiarity is that staff and customers are all aged between four and seven years old.

The freshly-painted, red and black, timber-framed

shop is set in a "parade" of cloakrooms at the 111, Abney Primary School, Stoke Newington. A sign above the entrance says Sir Thomas Abney Stores No. 42, in black copper-plate. At a touch of the hand, the door swings open, with a business-like ring.

The stores are the invention of Mr David Evans, the school's headmaster. He wants them to be both a learning resource and a source of amusement for the children.

"The most important thing about the shop is that it is real," he said. "What I wanted was realistic detail. It could have been a modern front in aluminium, as long as it was in keeping with the shop fronts in the neighbouring streets."

The shop offers children the chance of using maths, reading and writing in a real situation. They can weigh

food on the scales, give change from the till, make and read shopping lists, and select their purchases according to weight and volume.

Mr Evans was partly inspired by the Russian psychologist Vygotsky, who earlier this century wrote, "Teaching should be organised in such a way that reading and writing are necessary for something." In other words, they should be taught in an interesting context.

The Abney stores may be a grocer's one week, and a cafe, newspaper, or travel agent's the next. The owner's shop may change from Turkish Cypriot, to Jewish Orthodox, or Indian, to reflect the mixed ethnic character of the local shops. The facade was closely modelled on a cluster of mock Georgian shops in one of Stoke Newington's main streets. The props inside, and the notices on the

door — announcing special bargains and opening hours — will be constantly changed. The stores were designed, and built by Mr Joe Tibbets, a former drama teacher, who constructed "learning environments" in schools, and the project, which used reinforced glass, and a real door, cost the school £700.

Teaching and the tube

TV AND Schooling contains a series of uneven essays on the basic theme of setting new terms for developing education about television. It takes as its starting point the much publicised DES report on Parents, TV and Schoolchildren and the subsequent British Film Institute conference which discussed it.

Emphasis is constantly placed on those sections of the New and Old media which are recommended that television should find a proper place within any school's curriculum. As popular TV and Schoolchildren put it, "Media literacy is a matter for the whole curriculum and should not be seen as a discrete subject."

One television practitioner, Margaret Matheson — who was responsible for commissioning the Birth of a Nation plays by David Leland while at Central Television — writes: "Let children understand what's going on. It is a laudable sentiment from someone who is jointly responsible for producing millions of pounds' worth of material every year, primarily for the American US market. But Ms Matheson does not practice what she preaches, for she consistently refuses to reveal precise figures on what her programmes cost to make and how much people pay to buy them."

Anne Hennessey contributes a chapter on the need for television in the nursery and notes that "both television and schooling are powerful sources of children's knowledge of the world."

She says that teachers need to watch popular television programmes, particularly those directed at children, so they can talk effectively with their pupils about them. The old, dominant attitude among teachers that television is irrelevant to education and should be ignored appears to be gradually receding.

TV and Schooling is published by the British Film Institute at £3.95 in paperback.

Who'll get a black spot?

THE bankruptcy and closure of some universities is inescapable unless the Government changes its policy or a lot more universities are found. This is the prediction of Manchester University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor M. H. Richmond.

The annual 2 per cent cut in university funding, plus the shift of resources from universities weak in research to those deemed by the University Grants Committee to be strong, will, he insists, effectively hand a "black spot" to some universities.

"Who will they be?" he asked last week in his report to the Manchester University Court. His answer was "One cannot be sure, but one would tend to look among any which are relatively weak in research and which have been slow to make the necessary adjustments in the period following 1981."

If Professor Richmond thinks some universities or university departments will have to close, he is sure that no university will escape unscathed. He believes the Government is trying to change our university system into an American type, with research universities and colleges, and trying to do so with only one year of planning and four years of transition.

CONTRIBUTORS: Martin Lynch, John Fairhall, Julia Hagedorn, Ann Huls, Adriana Caudrey, and Graham Wade.

Senior Lecturer — Advanced Computer Technique Defence ADP Training Centre

The Centre, at Blandford Camp, Dorset is responsible for the professional ADP training of officers and NCOs of the Armed Forces and MOD civilians.

The range of courses covers fundamental professional training, systems analysis and design, and programming. Other courses cover real-time systems and project management. There is an Advanced Course (30 weeks) in preparation for BCS examinations. All courses are residential.

The person appointed will be expected to lecture to all courses (training will be given, if necessary, in particular aspects) and to contribute to the development of the subjects taught.

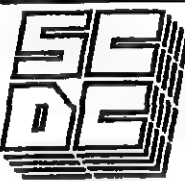
Candidates should normally have a degree in computer science or related subject, or a relevant qualification, which may have been obtained in the Armed Services, and have had 5 years' broad experience in the application of ADP and preferably be experienced lecturers or be able to instruct. Experience in Project Management, Design Methodologies or the implementation of computer systems advantageous. The ability to speak in public essential.

Saving salary (under review) within the range £13,075-£15,340 according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 5 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconk Hill, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468351 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6539.

Ministry of Defence.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer



SCHOOL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Re-advertisement)

In association with: ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Secondary Science Curriculum Review

Following the appointment of the current Director, Dr. R. W. West, to a senior post with IEA, applications are invited for the post of

Director

of this well established and funded programme of curriculum research and development. The new director will be responsible for overseeing the completion of current programmes of work, centrally and in association with teaching working groups in over eighty local education authorities in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. In addition he/she will be responsible for the direction of the third phase of the Review, from 1985 to 1989, concerned with dissemination, implementation, and aftercare of the Review to date and for the initiation of policy and strategies for in-service education interpreted in the widest sense.

The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate:

- ★ a sound knowledge of current developments in secondary education
- ★ a sound knowledge and practical experience of curriculum development and evaluation
- ★ high credibility in the field of science education at all levels
- ★ considerable management, diplomatic, writing, and editorial skills
- ★ a strong commitment to Science for All

It will be possible for the person appointed to be seconded from his/her present position on current salary plus an allowance, otherwise the salary range will be negotiable. It is anticipated that this post would be of interest to candidates currently at the level of Senior Burnham Head Teacher scales (or equivalent).

It is intended to make an appointment as soon as possible. Application forms and further details from: Mrs Ann Stewart, SCDC, Newcombe House, 45 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3JB. Tel: 01-229 1234, Ext. 292/3. Closing date: Friday, 31st May, 1985. Previous applications will be re-considered.

University of Strathclyde DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

WELLCOME LECTURESHIP IN NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

Applications are invited from candidates under 35 years of age with a degree in physiology, pharmacology or a related discipline, for a Lectureship in Neuropharmacology initially funded by the Wellcome Trust. The successful applicant will be required to teach the physiology and pharmacology of the central nervous system to students of physiology, pharmacology, biochemistry and other biological sciences, and will also be expected to conduct research in neuropharmacology, and to supervise postgraduate research students. Experience in electrophysiology or biochemical techniques would be an advantage. Candidates should submit a 500 word summary of their proposed research for research. Salary on scale for Lecturing staff £7,520-£14,925 per annum. US\$ benefits.

Application forms and further particulars (quote Ref: 14/85) are available from Staff Office, McCance Building, University of Strathclyde, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XD. Closing date for applications: 30 May 1985.

NATIONAL DAY CAMP DIRECTOR

An energetic and creative person with management experience is needed to lead an established team of enthusiastic full time staff in the promotion of Day Camps for young people. Plans for this summer include 4 camps in the London and Kent area with up to 4,000 children and 120 trained young leaders. This is an opportunity to combine business experience with a concern for the development of people from the age of 7 to 23. A Christian commitment in accordance with the Aims and Purposes of the YMCA would be essential.

If you have a vision for the Day Camp concept and can back it up with previous experience then apply to: Alex J. Ciolek, Executive Director, National Council of YMCAs, 640 Forest Road, Walthamstow E17 3DZ.

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Part-Time Tutorial and Counselling Staff

Applications are invited for part-time tutorial and counselling staff for the 1986 academic year. Appointments will be made in the latter part of 1985 prior to the next academic year which starts in February.

In 1986 the University will be offering more than 130 undergraduate courses in 5 Faculties, Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Sciences, Technology and the School of Education. The Centre for Continuing Education will be increasing the range of short professional updating courses it has on offer.

Existing members of the University's part-time tutorial and counselling staff will be sent application forms during May as a matter of course. The number of appointments of new staff will, therefore, be somewhat restricted and will vary between courses and regions. However, some vacancies will exist in all regions of the country. Applicants should be graduates or graduate equivalent. Recent teaching experience in further, adult or higher education is highly desirable.

To obtain application forms and further particulars send a POSTCARD to Deirdre Buck, The Clerk, Tutors Office (6), The Open University, P.O. Box 81, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AL.

To ensure that your application is considered for the 1986 academic year forms should be submitted to one of the University's Regional Offices by Friday 14th June 1985.

ile Inner London Education Authority Principal NORTH LONDON COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the post of Principal of North London College to commence on 1st January 1986. The college is in Burnham (Further Education) Group 5 and is organised into five departments:

Engineering & Science, Social Services, Creative Studies, General Studies, and Business Studies. The main premises are at Camden Road, N7 with branches at Ascham Road, N7 and Essex Road, N1. The College serves the education and training needs of an inner urban, multi-ethnic area of London, particularly Islington, Hackney and Camden.

Applicants should be well qualified academically and possess a sound knowledge of further education, together with administrative experience at a senior level. The Principal's salary is £21,485 per annum plus £1,038 London Allowance.

Further information and application forms (to be returned by 31 May 1985) may be obtained from the Education Officer (EO/IFHE 4) Inner London Education Authority, Room 267A, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB.

THIS IS A RE-ADVERTISEMENT

ILEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Administrative Assistant Scale 4

Salary £6,555-£7,329 p.a. Plus London Weighting and supplements required for Brent Young People's Law Centre, 273 High Road, Wileton, NW10.

You will be seconded from Brent Council to work at the Young People's Law Centre. Applicants will need experience in bookkeeping and general office management skills, as well as an ability to work on your own initiative. Application forms and job descriptions from the Personnel Division, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 9BT, returnable by 7th June 1985. Telephone 01-9031 0373 (24-hour Answerphone service). Reference number C/902 must be quoted.

London Borough of BRENT

Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer Job seekers welcome.

DUNDEE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

SENIOR LECTURESHIP IN DIGITAL SYSTEMS

Applicants should possess a good honours degree in electrical and/or electronics engineering or a related discipline, and preferably a higher degree, together with substantial appropriate industrial and/or research experience.

The person appointed will be required to teach on a range of first degree and other courses. He/she will be expected to lead the development of the subject of digital systems at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, which is likely to include the development of hardware and software relating to computer-aided engineering. He/she will also be expected to undertake research.

Salary scale (currently under review): £12,777-£14,164 (p.a.) — £16,104, with initial placement depending upon approved previous experience. Financial assistance towards the cost of removal expenses may be payable.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Personnel Office, Dundee College of Technology, 2nd Street, Dundee DD1 1HG, with whom applications should be lodged not later than 6 June 1985.

Solar Energy Studies SERC CASE STUDENTSHIPS

Applications are invited for:

1. A three year Studentship with registration for the degree of PhD in collaboration with Solar Energy Studies Ltd, Birmingham. The study is concerned with the preparation and properties of transparent heat mirror films and electrochromic materials for use in energy efficient windows.
2. A one year Studentship with registration for the degree of MPhil in collaboration with Applied Photophysics Ltd, London. The study is concerned with the design and development of a portable integrating sphere reflectometer for measurement of the optical properties of materials used in solar collectors.

Candidates for both posts should hold, or expect to hold, a first or upper second class honours degree in physics, chemistry, materials science, electronics or engineering.

Completed applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees should be submitted to Dr M.G. Hutchins, Department of Geology and Physics, University of Bath, Bath, BA2 9AT. Further particulars are available on request. Ref: 447.

Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computing

POST GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Artificial Intelligence: Applications are invited for a Research Assistant to work on developing a program to simulate the behaviour of problem solvers working with incomplete procedural knowledge. The program will form part of a larger system to solve problems in the domain of New Zealand's Rules of Evidence.

Applicants should have a First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree, in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, or a related subject. A working knowledge of PROLOG would be an asset. The successful candidate will be expected to register for a Higher Diploma, and to teach up to six hours a week in the Department.

Computer Studies: Applications are invited for a Research Assistantship to develop software for Distributed Computer Systems. The work will be in collaboration with members of the Further Education Laboratory as part of the Aveyard/UNION project.

Applicants should have a First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree with a substantial proportion of Computing.

The Assistantships are available from 1st September, 1985. The starting salary will be on the Researcher 'A' scale (£3,187 - £7,178, under review).

Further details and application forms are available from: The Postgraduate Tutor, Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computing.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

LENDRICK MUIR SCHOOL RUMBLING BRIDGE, KINROSS

HEAD TEACHER

Applications are invited from qualified teachers who are eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland for the post of Head Teacher of Lendrick Muir School which will fall vacant on 31st December, 1985, following the retirement of the present head.

Lendrick Muir is a secondary co-educational residential special school, grant-aided by the Scottish Education Department, for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties. There are at present 32 pupils on roll.

Applicants should have appropriate experience at a promotional level. Further information may be obtained from the undersigned to whom letters of application with the names and addresses of two professional referees and one personal referee should be sent not later than 14th June, 1985, to Miss H. M. Lowe, CA, 41 Charlotte Square, EDINBURGH.

POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS IN IRELAND

As part of an exchange agreement between Ireland and Britain the Irish Government offers two research scholarships leading to a PhD (3 years) or MSc (1 year) to British students who have received a first or second class honours degree and who have already obtained a place at an Irish institution.

Further information and application forms are available from the Irish Embassy in London.

Applications should reach the Embassy by 24 May, 1985. First Secretary (Education) Irish Embassy 17 Grosvenor Place London SW1X 7HR

MASTERS DEGREE/DIPLOMA IN SURVEY METHODS

Applications are invited for places on a two year part-time day release course leading to an MSc or a Diploma in Survey Methods. This course is endorsed under the Market Research Society Diploma Scheme. It will provide a theoretical background and practical instruction on all aspects of survey methods including sampling, interviewing, data processing and data analysis.

The course is run by Social and Community Planning Research (SCPR), a survey research institute, in association with The City University.

Applicants should normally possess a first degree or its equivalent. Further details available from: Nick Phillips, SCPR, Survey Methods Centre, 35 Northampton Square, London EC1V 0AX. Tel: 01-258 1866.

Lancashire County Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer

DISTRICT YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICER

Salary: Southbury Youth and Community Service Officers.

Main Range Points 4 to 5, £11,430 — £12,884 p.a. District 4 (Blackpool and Fylde).

Applications are invited for the above post from persons with qualifications and experience in the Youth and Community Services. The District Youth and Community Officer is responsible for the development of youth work in the District, including liaison with voluntary youth organisations and assistance with training programmes, and will be expected to work closely with organisations concerned with community education to provide an effective service. Car allowance and subsistence payable.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Chief Education Officer, Education Department, County Hall, Preston PR1 3BJ. (Tel: Preston 263697 or 263695). Please quote Ref: A1035/1/PJ and enclose S.A.E. Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

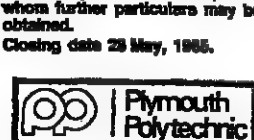
Department of Environmental Sciences

SERC CHEMISTRY RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Applications are invited for a 3-year SERC research studentship in Physical Chemistry commencing in October 1985 and leading to the degree of PhD.

The project will involve the investigation of the thermophysical properties of gases and gas mixtures with an emphasis on the experimental study and computer modelling of real gases and other systems of industrial interest.

Applicants should possess or expect to possess a First or Upper Second Class degree in Physics, Chemistry or an allied subject. They should apply, with CV and names of two referees, to Dr. G. P. Matthews, Chemistry Division, Plymouth Polytechnic, Drake Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AA, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Closing date 28 May, 1985.



LECTURESHIP IN THE SCIENCE OF MATERIALS (PHYSICS)

Applications are invited for the above post, which will be tenable from 1st October, 1985. This appointment is associated with a new primary degree course which will concentrate on the scientific principles which govern the design and use of advanced materials. Emphasis will be placed on materials used in optoelectronics, informatics and electronics.

The lectureship will be held in the Department of Pure and Applied Physics which has research groups in the following relevant areas: laser physics, solid state spectroscopy, surface physics, atmospheric science and polymers.

Salary Scale: £13,302 — £18,410 p.a. Appointment will be made at a point commensurate with qualifications and experience to date.

Application forms and further particulars relating to this post may be obtained from: Recruitment Officer, Staff Office, Trinity College, Dublin 2.

to whom completed applications should be returned by not later than Monday, 3rd June, 1985.

HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited from people with, or hoping to obtain, a good honours degree in Business Studies or other relevant disciplines, to investigate developments in building society branch management, with particular reference to their implications for management development.

The successful candidate will be expected to register for a higher degree with CMAA, and will have an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into the work of the world's biggest building society. Fixed term appointment — two years. Salary: £5,181-£5,910 (Researcher 'A' Scale).

Application forms (to be returned by 31 May 1985) and further particulars from the Personnel Office, The Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield HD1 3DH. Please send SAE.

HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Qualified English Teachers

required to work for German private schools in-company training for short periods or on a permanent basis.

Requirements: — University Degree, Teaching Diploma — RSA TEFL Diploma — Practical experience

Knowledge of German and driving licence would be advantageous.

Salary: Starting at DM 3,600 per month.

Application with CV, photograph, telephone no. Time of availability to be sent to: Mrs. F. Bantander, Euro-Sprachschule-Organisation GbR, Hauptstr. 26, D-5751 Stockstadt/Main.

Interviews are normally held in London.

سكول من الامم

Lifetime member of the NUT, retired hurt

I WAS astonished to read (The Guardian, May 8) that pensioners are included in NUT membership.

I was a member of the NUT for 32 years. When I retired in 1978 I received a polite thank you letter from the Authority and a statement that my pension was £2,800 of my salary. From the NUT nothing.

I then discovered that the pension I had paid all those years ceased at my death and that my widow would receive Sweet Penny Adams! This practice had been in operation since Domesday and had been changed only a very short time before I retired. If I had

worked for any other public service I would have received half of my salary and my widow would have received half of my pension at my death.

I had always regarded the NUT as a union run by headteachers for the benefit of headteachers. It has not changed. The very first salary negotiations I experienced back in 1948-49 dragged on as usual. In the end Ellen Wilkinson, the Education Minister, awarded headteachers and those on the maximum two years increments and the rest members but it would appear that all the unions include

Most teachers were in the NUT because most heads were also in the NUT and controlled promotion with a nod of the head or a word over the phone.

After the 1947 award of two early increments, recruiting for the NAS shot up and has continued to increase. In those days I was still stupid enough to believe that unity was best achieved in one union for all teachers, so I stayed in the NUT.

I have to say that since retiring I have not heard of any teachers' union making any effort on behalf of retired members. But it would appear that all the unions include

retired members when counting heads to arrive at voting places on the Burnham Committee. What a shower, what a bloody shower!

By all means break the NUT stranglehold and let the others have a fair voice, although I regret that such a change seems to be coming from the Thatcher government. Labour always claimed that they, and they alone, cared for teachers and their salary structure not to mention "Education". — Yours truly, D. Edwards, 15, Roscliffe Road, Rednal, Birmingham.



Why a teacher's lot is not a happy one

TEACHING is now an all-graduate entry profession, and to gain entry to a degree course, a candidate must pass at least five O levels (which must include Maths and English for teaching), and a minimum of two A levels.

entry to the profession. A 22-year-old, fully qualified, graduate teacher would earn £2,200 per annum. An 18-year-old non-graduate, however, would begin training only on entering the police force, would earn £6,706 per annum. Policemen and women also receive considerable allowances in addition to their basic pay; e.g. £2,210 is the average rent allowance for constables.

Surely we must question a government that values its teachers less than its police force. Incidentally, since April 1979, Members of Parliament have enjoyed a salary increase of 145 per cent — they are, of course, a special case! P. J. Thomas, London SW20.

N.B. All facts and figures quoted from National Union of Teachers' research findings.

Raw totals and raw deals

THERE is a greater injustice in the A level system than the one discussed by John Fairhall (The Guardian, May 2). Those who mark the scripts have no control over what "adjustments" are made to the raw totals they supply to the examining boards, which work in conditions of secrecy to produce "appropriate" distributions of grades each year.

As admissions officer for a B.Sc. Studies degree course for the last three years I have become over-familiar with the phenomenon of sixth-formers attaining D grades or worse when B's or better were predicted for them. The sheer number of these under-achievers, and the systematic way in which they have varied from teachers' predictions over this period, persuades me that something is wrong.

Perhaps subject tutors have become disastrously incompetent at making judgments about their pupils' abilities, but a different explanation suggests itself to me. As we now know that "only a handful of marks separate a B grade from a D, or the difference between admission and rejection by a university," it is not hard to see how a handful of marks separate a B grade from a D, or the difference between admission and rejection by a university.

It is not hard to see how a handful of marks separate a B grade from a D, or the difference between admission and rejection by a university. It is not hard to see how a handful of marks separate a B grade from a D, or the difference between admission and rejection by a university.

I base this on the assumption that examining boards made downward adjustments of about 3 per cent in each year to the raw marks they received from examiners. They would have done this in order to come up with a present target number of passes at each grade, or to put it another way, in order to maintain a "normal distribution" of pass marks. It was in these terms that an A level examiner defended this practice (which he did not deny) to me recently.

It is widely assumed in all areas of educational assessment that marks or grades must conform to the "normal curve." I can trace this belief back to the early years of the century. "Maintaining the distribution" seems to be identified in educational minds with reason, order and justice, although I know of no scientific basis for it. I consider it to be a superstition. It would have been thrown out long ago with all the other discredited baggage of mental testing if it were not so cruelly useful in the management of educational opportunities. In any case, normal curves applied to human populations, from Galton's first attempt, often reflect social and political assumptions which might be highly controversial, such as, in this case, some assumptions about the desirable size of the group of school-leavers which is to be permitted to become

qualified for entry to higher education.

The system of A level examining offered little in the way of justice to the many thousands who have thus been deftly robbed of their entitlement to higher education. It is now time for the examining boards to be asked just who they think they are working for. Their revenues come from the very consumers of the education system they treat so badly, but it is hard to argue that the headlong collapse of educational opportunities they have brought about has worked to the interests of consumers.

Each year sixth formers work harder and achieve higher standards only to have their efforts flung in their faces by these kangaroo courts. Civil liberties are a long way removed from the activities of the examining boards. To the extent that sixth-formers collaborate by revising downwards their expectations of their pupils, they will have joined their boards as loyal and willing allies of the Tories in their bid to cut back on educational opportunities. — Yours faithfully,

Charles Smith, Senior Lecturer in Social Studies, Teesside Polytechnic, Middlesbrough.

It doesn't add up

MAUREEN O'CONNOR'S article (Education Guardian, April 30) is certainly timely. It has been estimated by the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers that about 20 per cent of mathematics graduates will be required to enter teaching in order to maintain the current level of teachers in schools. In recent years, at around 10 to 12 per cent, it has been nowhere near this.

Sir Keith Joseph's 350 mathematics missionaries will be powerless to improve the quality of mathematics teaching in schools in the face of the increasing lack of qualified teachers.

Not only do we need to

improve the image and prospects of teaching in general and teaching mathematics in particular in order to attract more graduates into mathematics teaching, but in the face of the increasing shortage of mathematicians we need to raise the number of university places on undergraduate courses as well. There is no shortage of candidates with adequate A level grades. — Yours sincerely,

Philip Holgate, Chairman of the Joint Mathematics Council Working Party on the Supply of Mathematics Teachers, Birkbeck College, London WC1.

Cut off in Wales

WHILE it is always encouraging to see publicity given to the cuts in polytechnic financing (Education Guardian, May 7) so that the people may see just how poor relative to the public sector is becoming under this government, we have a gripe that appears somewhat reminiscent of NUS (UK) Conference this March. You have forgotten Wales!

At present the Polytechnic of Wales is having to suffer at a level of funding some 20 per cent below that of the average English polytechnic, and is at present being asked by WAB (NAB's Welsh counterpart) to accept more students to an already crowded campus, without any

extra revenue or capital funding to cope with these increases.

It does not need a genius, let alone Keith Joseph, to see that academic standards must suffer if this situation continues, while students (and staff) at the polytechnic must endure a level of non-academic facilities which are inadequate to say the least. We are convinced that quality must not be sacrificed on the altar of quantity.

Yours faithfully, Phil Morris, President, Polytechnic of Wales Students Union, Treforest, Mid Glamorgan.

A political matter that starts in playschool

AS A member of the group which produced the SDP paper on the under-five's (warming up with Ms Kelly's view (Forum, April 30) that support from public funds for the play-group movement should not come and go with the comings-and-goings of the political parties in office.

She could, however, push her argument much further. The whole of our education system is subject to sudden

policy shifts, policy reversals and reversals of policy. Education is a political matter and must reflect the changing political views of the country. But these views shift over decades, the consequence of our strange electoral system is that we have at least one change of national government, and several in local government, within the lifetime of an average pupil. With our tradi-

tion of adversarial politics this brings into Westminster and the county halls new political teams dedicated to reversing the policy directions taken by their predecessors.

The implications of Ms Kelly's letter is that we need to reform our electoral system and to develop traditions of coalition government which will be sensitive to the range of public opinion and

will ensure stability in the education of pupils and students, rather than retain our disruptive practice of winner-takes-all.

As in the economy, lead times in education are so long that we cannot afford an electoral system which treats schools as an arena for gladiatorial combat in which only two can play. I am, G. Bruce, Darford.

The answer to some dubious calculations

SIR Keith Joseph's grand initiative concerning calculators and computers and the virtual exclusion of "tables" may be fine — though a majority of my colleagues disagree; but why cannot he be consistent in his approach? For many years, O level pupils have been allowed calculators for all maths papers, yet in the equivalent higher level of the new joint 16 plus GCE/CE examination approved

by Sir Keith, calculators are prohibited in one of the two papers. And is Sir Keith aware that logarithms have not been used or taught in most schools for some years?

Finally our local CSE board set a question this summer involving calculations using halfpennies — yet we are told our teaching should be relevant.

Do you wonder that teachers are extra-nervous and contemptuous of the lead they are given? I speak as another mathematician escaping prematurely from the chaos in our schools. G. C. Couell, Head of Mathematics, Queen Elizabeth's School for Girls, Mansfield.

DUNDEE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Research Studentships

Applications are invited for Research Studentships from candidates wishing to work for a Higher Degree (MPhil or PhD) and who have, or expect to have, a good honours degree in a discipline appropriate to one of the following areas of research.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION

CIVIL ENGINEERING
Structural Concrete and Steelwork, properties of concrete, hydrology, transportation engineering, computer applications.

ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING
Control of robot Manipulators, development of an intelligent cardiotograph, switching phenomena on HV overhead lines.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
Multi-Component flow in pipes, corrosion fatigue of single phase copper alloys, stress corrosion cracking, corrosion of stainless steels in aqueous solutions at relatively low temperatures, survey of corrosion in industry.

SURVEYING AND BUILDING
Cost modelling and control building design, management in the building industry, environmental services, maintenance strategies.

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL STUDIES

ACCOUNTANCY AND ECONOMICS
The role of accountancy in accounting education.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Robotics, Data Bases, Linear Control Systems, software Engineering, Human-machine interfaces, Programming Languages, Computational Simulation, Numerical weather prediction.

MOLECULAR AND LIFE SCIENCES
Solubility of Gases in Water-based Systems, Synthesis and Reactions of Novel Substituted Anilines of Alkaloids, Evaluation of immunoassay systems as methods for detecting drug abuse in food, environmental control, wood preservation (fungal-penetrance and performance in selected wood species).

PHYSICS
Electronic transport in amorphous semiconductors, measurements on the UK free-electron laser.

EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY
The nature of learners as total systems. An analysis of the process of learning. Conditions for the future of the student/teacher relationship in the SERC.

Further particulars and application forms are obtainable from: The Personnel Office, Dundee College of Technology, Bell Street, Dundee DD1 1NN, to whom completed forms should be returned by 31st May 1985.

Falling College of Higher Education

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER IN JAPANESE

School of Business & Management (3 year fixed term contract)

Required for 1st September or as soon as possible thereafter to prepare and subsequently teach the proposed Japanese Applied Language Option on the industry-based BA (Hons) Sandwich Degree in Business Studies. Additional duties will involve liaison with industry and short course provision in Japanese language. Familiarity with techniques of language teaching within a business context is essential. The ability to offer Chinese (Mandarin) would be an advantage.

LECTURER VI IN CHINESE

School of Language Studies (1 year temporary post)

Required for 1st September to teach on the intensive one year Diploma in Chinese Language. Candidates should be conversant with techniques for teaching reading and translating skills and should be able to work closely with colleagues in a small teaching team. The ability to offer Japanese would be an additional advantage.

Salary: £1 394-£1 550 p.a.
£1 550-£1 817 p.a.
£1 817-£2 123 to a possible maximum of £1 508 p.a. inclusive of London weighting.

Application forms and further details from The Staffing Office, Falling College of Higher Education, St. Mary's Road, Ealing, London W5 8NF.

Closing date: 31st May 1985.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Department of Computer Studies

Temporary Lectureship in Computing in the Humanities

Applications are invited for the post of LECTURER in Computing in the Humanities. The holder of this post will be responsible for computing in the Humanities. The post has been established to encourage the use of computers in teaching and research in arts-related disciplines. The person appointed will develop courses for Arts-based undergraduates, and will play a major role in co-ordinating computer-based research activities in the Arts-based disciplines. It is the intention of the post that the holder will conduct research in some area of computer science which will be of benefit to the Humanities. The post is tenable from 1 September, 1985, for three years.

Salary Scale £2,550 - £5,070 to £14,200 per annum (interim review). Initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. D. W. Foster, Staffing Department, The University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH. Applications (7 copies) should be sent not later than 7 June, 1985, enclosing references and a curriculum vitae.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Research Assistantship

Applications are invited for work on an SERC supported research project concerning a new approach to optimal control system design. Applicants should be at the post-doctoral level and be qualified in control theory or an appropriate branch of mathematics. The initial salary will be in the range £7,520-£10,390 p.a. depending on age and experience. Applications (3 copies), including a c.v. and the names and addresses of two referees should reach the University Department of Engineering Science, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PJ (from whom further details may be obtained) by 14 June 85.

Case Studentships

Applications are invited for two research studentships tenable for 3 years from October, 1985 under the SERC Case scheme in collaboration with:

- (i) The Royal Aircraft Establishment (Bedford) to integrate helicopter handling quality criteria for use in a new approach to optimal control system design.
- (ii) The Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food Laboratory (Lowestoft) to apply methods of feedback and control to the determination of optimal fishing strategies.

Applicants should have (or expect to obtain) a first or upper second class degree in a suitable branch of engineering or mathematics. Applications should be sent as soon as possible to either (i) Dr. I. Postlethwaite, or (ii) Dr. O. Jacobs, address as above.

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

RESEARCH POSTS

Applications are invited for the following research posts in Departments in the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Research Associateship (F4)

The work will involve the synthesis of novel anti-tumour agents containing thioether and will run parallel with other work in this area already in progress. Applicants should have a strong interest in organic synthesis.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANT BIOLOGY

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (K2)

To make an ecological and experimental study on the role of microorganisms (microzooplankton) in the turnover of organic matter in the sea. Experience in phytoplankton ecology or aquatic microbiology desirable but not essential. Project involves some work at sea. Post tenable for up to three years and is funded by NERC.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY

Research Fellowship (A5)

To work on an SERC funded project with Dr. C. W. Wharton (Birmingham) and Professor R. E. Hester (Department of Chemistry, York). Kinetics and ultra-violet resonance Raman spectroscopy of transient intermediates in paper - metal - metal complexes. Project with Dr. R. E. Hester (Birmingham) and Professor R. E. Hester (Department of Chemistry, York). Tenable for up to two years. Starting salary probably not above £7,980.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (F7)

To work on the study and development of bubble column reactors for gas-liquid catalysed reactions. Chemical Engineers, Physical or Applied Chemists with good mathematical ability are required. Post is tenable for up to three years and is funded by SERC.

SALARY SCALES

Research Associateship 1B £7,520 - £10,390 plus superannuation
Research Fellow 1A £7,520 - £12,150 plus superannuation
Postdoctoral Fellow 1A £7,520 - £12,150 plus superannuation
For further particulars, phone 021-472 1301, ext. 2556 quoting reference number.

No formal application form. Three copies of application, including full curriculum vitae and references, should be sent to Assistant Registrar (Science & Engineering), P.O. Box 362, Birmingham B15 2TT by 31st May, 1985.

Athrofa Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru
The North East Wales Institute
of higher education and research

CARTREFLE, WREXHAM, CLWYD

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:
HUMANITIES AND BUSINESS STUDIES DIVISION

LECTURER I in GEOGRAPHY

(£5,910-£10,512)

Required for September 1985, a young, energetic lecturer with a good honours degree in Geography and a teaching qualification, to teach the subject to degree level in both the B.A. (Combined Studies) with Honours and B.Ed. courses. Recent experience in a primary school is desirable but not essential.

Further details and application form available from The Registrar, The North East Wales Institute, Cartrefle, Wrexham, Clwyd. Tel.: Wrexham 359221.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 31st May 1985.

Department of Education and Science

HM Inspectors of Schools

Applications are invited from men and women, preferably aged between 35 and 45, for appointment in England as HM Inspectors. HMI inspect educational institutions as part of both general and special duties and will involve liaison with the Department and throughout the education system.

English as a Second Language

Applicants will be expected to have had substantial teaching experience and to be conversant with the methods and approaches to teaching English as a second language within the school curriculum and in the classroom.

They should also have recent experience of working in this country in or with schools serving multi-ethnic populations.

Starting salary for all posts is within the range £16,200 - £21,800 (interim review). Relocation expenses of up to £5,000 may be payable.

Application forms (to be returned not later than 31 May 1985) and further information may be obtained from Mr. E. D. Foster, Department of Education and Science, 39 York Road, London SE1 7PH. Telephone: 01-934 0798 / 0799 / 0800.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer.

THE CHURCH OF IRELAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
(in association with Trinity College, Dublin)

TEMPORARY LECTURER in SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

This is a three-year appointment in the first instance. Salary IR£28,000 approximately (with certain dining and other rights attached).

Special interests in Reformation and / or 17th century Anglican Theology are desirable.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE APPOINTMENT WOULD TAKE EFFECT FROM OCTOBER 1st, 1985.

ALL ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THIS POSITION SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

THE REV. CANON J. HARTIN, PRINCIPAL,
CHURCH OF IRELAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE,
BRAEMOR PARK, RATHGAR, DUBLIN 14

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: MAY 31st 1985.

THE POLYTECHNIC OF WALES

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND LEGAL STUDIES

LECTURER GRADE I/ SENIOR LECTURER

Required to teach on a variety of postgraduate and undergraduate programmes, primarily in the functional areas of Health Care.

The successful candidate will be expected to be conversant with the use of computers in the application of computer systems within the public sector.

Salary: £7,548 - £14,011 per annum (interim review) (pending).

Further details and application forms may be obtained from: The Personnel Office, Polytechnic of Wales, Cardiff, CF1 1YD. Tel: (0443) 405138 ext 2681. Closing date: 31st May 1985. Ref: 72713

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD

DEPARTMENT OF AERONAUTICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

CHAIR IN DESIGN ENGINEERING

This newly-established Chair is intended to strengthen further the undergraduate and postgraduate activities in design in the Department. Applicants with design experience in the aerospace industry will be particularly welcomed though the successful candidate may have a distinguished research record in any field of aeronautical, mechanical or materials engineering science.

Design is a cross university discipline and the Chair will be central to a wide range of research projects, eg the design of aerodynamically optimal internal flow systems, the design of flexible manufacturing systems, the design of multi-media digital control systems. The new Professor will share responsibility for the academic direction of the entire Department of Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering with the Professor of Engineering Dynamics and Control and the Professor of Manufacturing Systems Engineering, in association with the British Aerospace Professor of Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering, the Daimler-Benz Robotics Professor of Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

The University fosters strong links with industry and Professors are encouraged to undertake appropriate consultancies. Salary within the professional range (average £22,225 p.a. in the interim review). Interested applicants may address informal enquiries to Professor Brian Porter, Chairman of the Department of Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering (Tel: 01756 5543, ext. 558). Formal applications must be lodged by 28 June, 1985, with the Registrar, University of Salford, Salford M6 6PU, England, from whom further particulars of this post may also be obtained (Tel: 01756 5543, ext. 7172). Please quote reference ME8589/GDM.

Portsmouth Polytechnic

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

Research in Telecommunication Systems and Digital Techniques

Research Assistantships and SERC Studentships are available for research in the above areas. Applications are invited from graduates holding or expected to get a good Honours degree in Electrical Engineering or Applied Physics and interested in pursuing research for a Higher Degree (MSc or PhD).

The successful applicants will join the Microwave (Telecom) Systems Research Group and the areas of research are supported by substantial SERC grants and research contracts. The areas are: (a) high speed digital techniques for (i) wide-band microwave telecommunications systems (spread spectrum), (ii) numerical algorithms and fast digital techniques for the measurement of phase noise, (b) satellite communications and the use of the existing dual antenna ground station facility.

Salary scale: Research Assistant: £5,867-£8,405 per annum (Superannuation). Studentships carry an SERC grant. SERC applicants with suitable qualifications welcome. Good command of English essential.

Applications forms and further particulars from Personnel Office, Naffield Centre, St. Michael's Road, Portsmouth. Tel: 0705-82541.

Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

THE CANNING SCHOOL

We run intensive courses in English and communication skills for foreign company personnel and professional people. We have five centres (three in London, one in Bath and one in Milan) and we run tailored courses for companies all over Europe. We create our own teaching methods and materials.

We are expanding and need people to join our teaching teams. We are looking for graduates aged between 25 and 40 with business, industrial or experience. They should be good communicators and have the ability to animate small groups. Previous experience of teaching English as a foreign language is useful, but not essential.

Paid training begins in June/July. The starting salary is at least £10,500 p.a. (London). Staff pension and profit sharing schemes.

PLEASE RING 01-937 3233

SCIENTIFIC OFFICER
required for
BRISTOL ZOO'S
NEW "WORLD OF WATER"

The Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society offers this new post of Scientific Assistant for the new Aquarium which is due to open in the Spring of 1986. The successful applicant would be required to start by the late summer of 1985. For further details, write to: The Director, Zoological Gardens, Bristol BS8 3HA

UNIVERSITY OF KENT
AT CANTERBURY

Biological Laboratory

Postdoctoral Biochemist/Molecular Biologist

Applications are invited for a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in the Biological Laboratory, to work on the synthesis and biological activity of novel compounds. The project is to be supervised by Dr. R. B. Freeman and is to be carried out in collaboration with the Biotechnology Department of the University of Kent. The successful candidate will be expected to have a PhD in Biochemistry or Molecular Biology and to have experience in the synthesis and biological activity of novel compounds. The salary will be £10,000 p.a. (interim review) plus superannuation. Further details and application forms may be obtained from: The Personnel Office, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NF. Tel: (01843) 527101. Closing date: 31st May 1985. Ref: 72713

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
Educational opportunities for unemployed people (2 Posts)

Salary: Senior Lecturer Grade

Required to assess needs and implement educational programmes providing opportunities for unemployed people. The Authority is seeking enthusiastic teachers and / or counsellors with proven ability, willingness to innovate, and to collaborate with a variety of educational providers, and with employers, are essential.

These posts arise under the DES Education Support Grant Scheme, and are available to 31st March 1986, but may be extended.

Further details and application forms, returnable by 26th May 1985, from Director of Education (Mr. HEFE), P.O. Box 57, Avon House North, St. James Barton, Bristol BS5 7EB. Tel: 0117 297777, ext. 6138.

Avon is an equal opportunities employer.

Avon COUNTY COUNCIL

E.S.P. TEACHERS

Required for work in York and overseas for short, medium and long term contracts.

Applicants should have extensive E.S.P. teaching experience.

Send full cv and letter of application to: Bill Buckingham, Specialist Language Services (International) Ltd, Cromwell House, 13 Ogleforth, York YO1 2JG.

CITY OF WAKEFIELD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

BRETTON HALL
(College of Higher Education affiliated to the University of Leeds)

All appointments at LMS level unless otherwise indicated.

Tutor in Charge of Art & Design*
(in charge of area of studies)

3 Lecturers in Textiles Arts
(two in charge of area of studies)

3 Lecturers in Drama*
(with Concurrent Theatre and Theatre Arts external (one fixed term for one year))

2 Lecturers in Music
(one fixed term for one year)

2 Lecturers in English
(one fixed term for one year)

1 Lecturer in Education
(with curriculum and educational studies interest fixed term for one year)

For all appointments recent and relevant experience in teaching particularly in schools will be an advantage.

*Principal Lectureship may be available for appropriately qualified and experienced candidates. Salary Scale Lecturer I (Senior Lecturer) £7,548 - £13,135. Principal Lecturer £13,135 - £18,467. For further details and application forms from the Principal, BRETTON HALL College of Higher Education, West Bretton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF4 4LG. Forms to be returned by 26th May 1985.

Aston University

SERVICES SCHEME RESEARCH PROJECT

CEMENT AND CONCRETE ASSOCIATION SPONSORSHIP

The project involves the crucial relationship between design and construction in house building. An important research aspect will be site monitoring for feedback information. For three years leading to the degree of PhD, the sponsor will enhance the annual SERC grant to around £4,000 (tax free). Applicants with, or likely to obtain, a minimum 2.1 class degree in architecture, engineering or science should contact: Dr. D. C. A. McLeish, Department of Civil Engineering, Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET, telephone 021-359 3811, ext. 4544/4371.

The Hatfield Polytechnic

Lecturer II/Senior Lecturer Posts

SALARY RANGE £7,812-£12,363/£11,439-£14,325

It is hoped that all these appointments can be filled from 1 September 1985.

School of Engineering Electronic Engineering

Our Division of Electrical Engineering would welcome applicants with a good honours degree in Electronic Engineering or an allied Discipline, who wish to teach and research in a lively academic community.

We provide courses at subdegree, degree and post-graduate levels, with a bias towards digital systems, information technology, micro-electronics and telecommunications. An interest in the design of microelectronic systems would be of particular advantage but is not essential. Please quote reference 929.

School of Business and Social Sciences

Accounting

Applicants must have a relevant degree, post-graduate degree or professional qualification and be willing to teach on a wide range of courses and conduct research and consultancy. Expertise is particularly sought in Management Information Systems, Financial Accounting Systems, Auditing, Taxation and Managerial Accounting. Please quote reference 921.

Further information available from R. J. Ryan, Head of Accounting Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Economics

Applications are sought from well qualified and experienced teachers in Economics who are able to contribute to a wide range of teaching. Applicants must demonstrate an active interest in research but no particular subject specialism is sought. Please quote reference 922.

Further information available from J. C. Adams, Head of Economics Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Law

Applications are sought from well qualified lawyers with either a higher degree, professional qualification, previous teaching experience, or appropriate previous employment. Candidates should be particularly interested in teaching and research in an area of Business Law.

Please quote reference 923.

Further information available from P. W. Parry, Head of Law Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Social Work

Applicants should be graduates experienced in Social Work and have experience and interest in either Community Social Work or group work in a Residential/Day Care setting. Please quote reference 924.

Further information available from R. C. Parker, Head of Social Work Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

School of Natural Sciences

Temporary Lecturer— Division of Psychology

Applications are invited for a temporary lectureship in cognitive psychology. The successful applicant will be supported on an ESRC grant to assist Dr. Kornblit with degree level lecturing commitments while she is engaged on the project research. An interest in the use of microcomputers for the control of laboratory experiments will be an advantage. Informal inquiries to Dr. Diana Kornblit (07072) 79626.

The appointment is for 10 months from mid-September in the salary range £7,812-£8,727 under review. Please quote reference 925.

Research Assistant in Highway Materials

Salary to £9,174.

Applications are invited for an SERC funded post to investigate the deterioration processes affecting dense bituminous macadam. Candidates should have a higher degree, preferably a PhD, and/or relevant research experience. The appointment is for one year in the first instance commencing as soon as possible.

Please quote reference 926.

ALL POSTS: Application forms and further details from the Staffing Office, The Hatfield Polytechnic, PO Box 109, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9AB, or telephone Hatfield (07072) 79602. Closing date for completed application forms: 3 June 1985.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

The College will shortly appoint an Assistant Director of Studies to take up office this Autumn. Applicants who should be Graduates in Music must be capable of assisting in the supervision and co-ordination of the academic work and performing activities of the student body of about 400.

Salary will be on the Burnham Senior Lecturer Scale plus Inner London Allowance.

Full details and application form from the Administrator, Trinity College of Music, 11-13 Mandeville Place, London W1M 6AQ (01-935 5773). Closing date 31st May 1985.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CAREERS OFFICER

Grade: PO1(f) £12,243-£13,326

CAREERS SERVICE, AUEW HOUSE,
FURNIVAL GATE, SHEFFIELD S1 3SL

This is a challenging senior appointment, which carries substantial management responsibilities for the maintenance and future development of this forward looking service. Candidates must have had successful management experience at a senior level and a wide range of experience within the Careers Service. They should also be highly skilled in interpersonal relationships, flexible and versatile and be able to make a significant contribution to the work of the service.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER (REF. ST/PL/1), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEOPOLD STREET, SHEFFIELD S1 1RL. CLOSING DATE 27TH MAY.

City of Sheffield
An Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING PRINCIPAL and VICE-CHANCELLOR

Sir Kenneth Alexander has indicated his retirement to the University Court, and the post of Principal and Vice-Chancellor will be vacant from 31 July 1985.

The Appointing Committee invites any individuals of appropriate experience and background who wish to receive information about the post of Principal and Vice-Chancellor or who wish to propose a successor to Sir Kenneth to communicate with the University Secretary, from whom further particulars are available. Applications should be received by 15 July 1985.

Dr. G. S. S. S. S.
University Secretary
University of Stirling
STIRLING FK9 4LA
Scotland, U.K.

UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Norwich

LECTURER IN COMPUTING STUDIES

Applications are invited for the above permanent post in the School of Information Systems. Preference will be given to candidates having appropriate qualifications, experience and research interests within the broad area of Computing Studies. Candidates with a background in software engineering from both a theoretical and practical point of view are particularly encouraged to apply. The appointment will commence on 1 September 1985 at an initial salary of £11,439 per annum (under review), plus 10% benefits.

Application forms (three copies) which should include a full curriculum vitae, including recent date of birth, together with the names and addresses of three referees to whom references may be made, should be lodged with the Education Office, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, telephone 0692 50171, ext. 2129 from where further particulars may be obtained. Not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

Application forms (three copies) which should include a full curriculum vitae, including recent date of birth, together with the names and addresses of three referees to whom references may be made, should be lodged with the Education Office, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, telephone 0692 50171, ext. 2129 from where further particulars may be obtained. Not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

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EFL TEACHERS -TELL US WHAT YOU COULD TEACH OTHERS- TONIGHT

Cable and Wireless, the worldwide telecommunications Group, has established a nationwide telecommunications network for the Saudi Arabian National Guard. Training is an integral part of the project at the National Guard's well-equipped training school in Riyadh, where theoretical and practical telecommunications skills are taught. We can offer immediate and challenging opportunities for teachers aged 30-40, who have a relevant degree and recognised TEFL qualification backed up with practical experience of EFL teaching. Ideally gained overseas. As important as formal education is a patient and tactful disposition and the enthusiasm and ability to communicate

effectively with small groups of Saudi Nationals to help them quickly learn the English they need to understand theoretical and practical telecommunications skills.

The ability to produce effective ESP material particularly at an elementary level and the use of video in language teaching is required.

Contracts are just over 12 months duration on a single status basis and with all accommodation and facilities provided free. The excellent tax free salary of £17,000 is paid partly in sterling and partly in local currency, and is based on the current rate of exchange. In addition there are three home leave breaks throughout the contract with all air fares provided.

Phone-in tonight, Tuesday 14th May or tomorrow Wednesday 15th May between 5pm and 8pm on 01-242 4433 for an informal discussion or send full information to: The Recruitment Manager, Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RX.



Cable and Wireless
Helps the world communicate

IMS CO-ORDINATOR

The INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS SCHEME is a major calculator-based secondary mathematics project for pupils of all abilities which fulfils teachers' needs in the 80s and into the 90s.

A marketing co-ordinator is needed to promote this exciting scheme to teachers and L.E.A. advisers throughout the United Kingdom.

Based in London, the job requires close attention to detail but also involves a considerable amount of UK travel. A competitive salary, with car, is offered for a two year contract. Experience of teaching mathematics is a distinct advantage.

Please write for further details and an application form to Susan Watson, Educational Marketing Manager, Bell & Hyman Ltd, 37/39 Queen Elizabeth Street, London SE1 2QB.

Bell & Hyman

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS, KUWAIT



International Language Centres Ltd. invites applications from English Language teachers to join an already established language training team. Applicants should be male, of bachelor status with a degree in any subject and a minimum of two years' previous EFL experience.

The contract is for a one-year period (approx) commencing late August, 1985. The current basic salary, which is tax free in Kuwait, is 365 Kuwaiti dinars per month with increments for qualifications and experience. Return air fares, relocation allowance, terminal gratuity, housing and daily transportation to the teaching site are provided.

Paid holidays are six weeks per year, in addition to Kuwaiti public holidays.

For application form and further details apply to: Personnel Department, INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CENTRES LTD., 9 Cavendish Square, London W1M 6DD. Telephone: 01-580 4351. Re-advertisement. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

General Inspector For Further Education

To have particular responsibility for Education in Prison department establishments. Applications are invited for this new post, candidates should be graduates and qualified teachers. Considerable teaching experience in Further and/or Adult Education is essential and relevant professional management experience is desirable. Experience of work in prison establishments would be a considerable advantage.

Salary within Southbury Scale HT9 £15,792-£17,112

Assistance with removal expenses given in approved cases.

Further particulars and application forms, returnable by 24th May, 1985, from County Education Officer (Ref. GP), Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2JL. Tel: Maidstone 671411, Ext. 2481.



UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Norwich

RESEARCH STUDENTS IN SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following three SERC CASE awards from candidates who have, or expect to obtain, a first or upper second class honours degree or equivalent in chemistry or a related subject and have a particular interest in organic synthesis.

1. Conformationally Locked Systems via Anomalous Diastereoselection (with Prof. J. H. R. Taylor, Department of Chemistry, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, telephone 0692 50171, ext. 2129 from where further particulars may be obtained. Not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

2. Novel Equilibria (with Prof. J. H. R. Taylor, Department of Chemistry, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, telephone 0692 50171, ext. 2129 from where further particulars may be obtained. Not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

3. Three Component Coupling Reactions (with Prof. J. H. R. Taylor, Department of Chemistry, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, telephone 0692 50171, ext. 2129 from where further particulars may be obtained. Not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and a list of references, together with a copy of their degree certificate or transcript, to Dr. J. H. R. Taylor, School of Chemistry, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TA, as soon as possible. Further details can be obtained from the same address.

University of Bristol

SCHOOL FOR
ADVANCED
URBAN STUDIES

ESRC STUDENTSIPS

1. Linked to the Urban Change and the Restructuring of the City (Supervisor: Ray Forster).
2. Linked to the Changing Urban and Regional System Initiative: Swinson Project — on the position of women in the labour market (Supervisor: John Lovering).
3. Collaborative award, jointly with the Audit Commission, on Commission Grant Indicators in Local Government (Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Sewell).

Closing date for applications is 31 May.

For further details please phone Hedy Macaulay, School for Advanced Urban Studies, Radway Lodge, Groppe Road, Clifton, Bristol. Tel: (0272) 741117.

Moderators

The Business & Technician Education Council requires additional Moderators to work on a part-time basis at National and Higher National levels in all areas of the Council's work, at Further and Higher Education Establishments in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Moderator helps to establish and maintain the standard of the Council's awards by monitoring the operation, development and vocational relevance of BTEC courses.

BTEC is in the process of establishing a Register of Moderators and would welcome applications from people employed in industry as well as in educational environments. Applicants should have experience in educating, training or employing young people and should be aware of the standards required by employers as well as the aims of the Council.

Some training and support will be provided by our centrally and regionally based staff. Fees and expenses will be paid.

Further details and application form (which should be returned by Tuesday 28th May 1985, at the latest) are obtainable by sending name and address on a postcard to:

Moderator Section,
BTEC,
Central House,
Upper Woburn Place,
London WC1H 0HH.



SOMERSET COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

SENIOR LECTURER IN TEXTILE AND SURFACE PATTERN DESIGN

A new post primarily supporting the Course Tutor in the management and teaching of the BTEC Higher National Diploma in textile and surface design.

Applicants should have specialised in printed textiles in furnishing and/or in surface pattern design and have experience in design practice as well as in design education.

The post calls for proven educational management and administrative skills, teaching experience and the knowledge and initiative to develop industrial contacts, students' work experience and the development of new technology.

Further particulars and application form from: The Chief Administrative Officer, Somerset College of Arts and Technology, Wellington Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5AX. SAE please.

Closing date: 24th May, 1985. Please quote reference G1.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Common Services)

P.O. Stc £16,674-£17,580

This demanding third tier post, which becomes vacant on 1st July, 1985 calls for substantial administrative experience and a university degree (or equivalent). The duties of the post at present include overall responsibility for: administration and finance, school government and transport, school meals, buildings and lettings, staffing appointments and the co-ordination of personnel management procedures and accounts/supplies. These duties may be varied to match the needs of the service and the abilities of the successful applicant.

Application form and job description available from Town Clerk, Metropolitan Borough of Solihull, P.O. Box 18, Council House, Solihull, West Midlands B51 3QS. Tel: 021-705 5769 Ext. 535 or 021-705 6672 (evenings and weekends) 24-hour answering machine, returning Ref. No. CS048.

Forms to be returned by 31st May, 1985.



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS DIRECTOR 1986/7

Applications are invited from people with considerable senior management experience in the education service to direct the Centre at York in 1986/7. The successful applicant will then have one year of preparation for the post.

The Centre has well developed LEA and school links and co-operates closely with industry and commerce through seminars, workshops, publications and curriculum development projects.

The work of the Centre is to collect, study and disseminate good practice. Secondment as Director offers an chance for a person with drive and vision to develop their interpersonal and entrepreneurial skills across a wide brief and make a unique contribution to a fast growing, nationally recognised organisation.

Posts Overseas

Key English Language Teaching Scheme

The KELTS Scheme is part of Britain's aid programme to developing countries:

Malawi

Post: Adviser in Primary Teacher Education, Blantyre Teachers' College

Duties: to advise English Departments in all Primary Teachers' Colleges on the best ways of teaching the syllabus and of using existing materials; to be responsible for on-going staff training and for helping English Departments to function effectively; to advise the Ministry through Inspectors on all aspects of ELT in the Teacher Training Colleges and to help with moderating national examinations and continuous assessment for these Colleges; to teach a maximum of 8 forty-minute periods a week at Blantyre Teachers' College.

Qualifications: candidates must have a degree plus a PGCE, preferably at Primary level, one year postgraduate TEFL qualification and five years' teaching experience, including three years overseas, and preferably primary teacher training.

Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a. Overseas Allowances: £N1L-£1,894 p.a. depending on salary level and marital status. Reference: 85 K 6

Pakistan

Director of Studies, National Academy of Higher Education, University Grants Committee, Islamabad

Duties: the National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE) caters for the training needs of in-service tertiary level teachers. The postholder working in a local course director, will be responsible for the directing of a diploma course in the teaching of English as a Foreign Language. The course will cover the various fields involved in the areas of ESL/EFL. The postholder will assist participants with their practical assignments in the second phase by seeking groups in regional centres; to conduct seminars/workshops as required. Qualifications: candidates preferably aged 40-45, should have a first degree plus an MA or PhD in ESL/EFL or Applied Linguistics and 5-10 years' relevant experience, including five years overseas (preferably in the sub-continent) and teacher training in a college or university. Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a. Overseas Allowances: £N1L-£1,894 p.a. depending on salary and marital status. Reference: 85 K 10

The following posts are also funded under Britain's programme of Aid to developing countries:

Turkey

Post: English Language Teaching Adviser, Department of Foreign Languages, Karadeniz University, Trabzon

Duties: to train and upgrade the English Language Teaching Staff of the English Department in modern teaching methods and techniques, with special reference to service English; to develop ESP materials based on a needs analysis of 17 departments to run language improvement courses for staff when required; and to teach general and/or ESP

classes of students for six hours a week. Qualifications: candidates, preferably married without children of school age at post and aged 25-50, should have a first degree in English or Modern Languages, an MA in Applied Linguistics and a minimum of five years' TEFL experience overseas. Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a. Overseas Allowances: £N1L-£1,894 p.a. depending on salary level and marital status. Reference: 85 K 4

Uganda

National Teachers' College, Ngetta

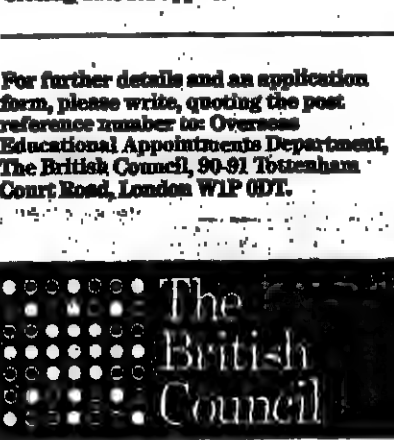
Posts: 1. Head of Physics

2. Head of Mathematics

Duties: 1. To be responsible for the academic, professional and administrative work in the respective departments including teaching methods, curriculum development, examinations, practicals, teaching practice supervision, books and equipment, budgeting and in co-operation with the Director and Ministry of Education to select students and appoint staff; 2. To liaise with the Ministry of Education, the National Curriculum Development Centre, the Faculty of Education at Makerere and the National Teachers' College at Kyambogo in order to influence reform in the subject throughout the National Teachers' College system; 3. To participate in the definition of appropriate training for a counterpart. Qualifications: candidates preferably male, aged 35-55, must be UK citizens with a British educational background. They should be single or married without school-aged children at post. They should have a first degree in an appropriate subject, a professional teaching qualification and five years' experience of secondary-school teaching in Africa. Experience of teacher training is desirable. It is hoped that the candidate would be able to offer a second related subject in addition to the first subject. Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a. Allowances: £477-£5,869 per annum depending on salary level and marital status. Reference: 85 K 7

General Qualifications for all of the above: UK citizens with a British educational background. Benefits: salary free of UK income tax; free family passages; children's education allowances and holiday visits; free furnished accommodation; outfit allowances; medical services; baggage allowances; employer's contribution to a recognised superannuation scheme or an allowance of 11% of salary in lieu. Contracts initially for two years with the British Council. Posts tenable from September 1985. Closing date for applications: 3 June 1985.

For further details and an application form, please write, quoting the post reference number to: Overseas Educational Appointments Department, The British Council, 90-91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0BT.



ile Education Authority

Divisional Education Officer (Division 8) Southwark

Salary £21,933-£23,661

(Including London Weighting)

Following the retirement of the present post holder applications are invited for this senior post.

LEA schools and the education welfare service are organised into divisions. Divisional Education Officers carry major responsibility for the interpretation and implementation of the Authority's policies.

Candidates should be skilled administrators with wide knowledge and experience of the education service. The successful candidate will be able to make a direct and important contribution to the quality of education in Inner London.

Application forms and full details of the post are available from Establishment Branch (Personnel Services Division) (EO/Estab.1b), The County Hall, London SE1 7PB. The closing date for return of completed applications is 7 June 1985.

LEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Adviser - English

Soulbury H.T. Group 9, £15,792 - £17,112 p.a. plus £1,038 London Allowance

Applications are invited from experienced teachers for the post of Adviser for English. We are looking for someone with a range of successful teaching experience, evidence of curriculum development work and experience in service learning.

The English Adviser is responsible for English, Drama and the Language Development in its widest sense which includes a role in the School Library Service and the important area of English as a Second Language. He will work with a team of Advisers led by the Principal Adviser and the Senior Phase Adviser, and will participate in the programme of School Appraisals. The successful candidate will have an understanding of and commitment to the Borough's anti-racist and equal opportunity policies.

This is a re-advertisement. Previous candidates will be considered. Application forms and job description from the Personnel Division, Room 1, First Town Hall Avenue, Kings Cross, London, N1C 4AT, or by post to Mrs J. Jones, Telephone 01-253 0571 (24 hour Answering Service). Reference number 8947 must be quoted.

London Borough of BRENT

Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

KIDDERMINSTER COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

PRINCIPAL

This post has become available due to the retirement of the present Principal at the end of the current academic year. A Group 4 general college of further education, it has particular connections with the carpet industry, offering a BA Honours degree course in the design of carpets and related facilities.

Salary within the range for a Group 4 College (at present £18,975 to £20,154).

Application forms and further particulars obtainable from: The Clerk to the Governors, Kidderminster College of F.E., Hoo Road, Kidderminster, Worcs. DY10 1LX, to whom completed forms should be returned by 31st May 1985.

Hereford and Worcester County Council

TAKING A JOB OVERSEAS

If you are considering applying for a job abroad you should, in your own best interests, investigate fully terms and conditions of employment and ascertain restrictions that apply to your country where the post is offered before acceptance.

GARVALD

A RANOLD School House, School and Teaching Centre. (Please send a covering letter with your application, for residential work with teenagers with mental handicaps. Write to: The Secretary, Garvald School, Dalkeith, West Lothian. Borders EH26 7JL.



ROBERT GORDON'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ABERDEEN

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for this post, which became vacant on 1 May 1985 on the appointment of the holder as Director Designate of Bath College of Higher Education.

RGIT is the largest and most polytechnic of the Scottish Central Institutions, with a student FTE of 3700. Courses are conducted in Faculties of Arts, Science and Technology in a wide range of subjects.

Applicants must be graduates, preferably with a Higher Degree, and have had substantial experience at a senior level in the provision of courses in higher education. Experience in industry or commerce and in research will be an advantage.

Salary £23,885, subject to periodic review.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Secretary to the Institute, Schoolhill, Aberdeen AB9 1FR, with whom completed application forms should be lodged by 24 May 1985.

Required as soon as possible

Financial Accounting and Auditing

Lecturer II/Senior Lecturer to teach professional accountancy students at higher levels. We are seeking a qualified accountant with professional experience. A degree would be useful.

Salary scale, inclusive of local allowance: £7,806-£14,319

For details and application forms please send a SAE to the Vice-Principal,

Slough College of Higher Education, Wellington Street, Slough SL1 1YG.

Closing date 14 days.

An equal opportunities employer.

Slough College

The POLYTECHNIC WOLVERHAMPTON

Applications are invited for the following posts in the School of Computing and Information Technology:

Lecturer II / Senior Lecturer in Computing

Temporary Lecturer II in Computing

Temporary Demonstrator in Computing

Lecturer II / Senior Lecturer in Mathematics/Statistics

Temporary Lecturer II in Mathematics/Statistics

Researcher A in Computing

Salary Scales:

Researcher A - £5,910 - £9,405

Demonstrator - £5,910 - £9,405

Lecturer II - £7,806 - £12,085

Senior Lecturer - £11,175 - £14,061

Further details and application form from The Staffing Office, The Polytechnic Wolverhampton WV1 1SS or telephone Wolverhampton (0902) 710654 (ansaphone).

LANCASHIRE POLYTECHNIC AT PRESTON

Faculty of Business and Management

School of Administrative Studies

Principal Lecturer (Ref AA/227)

to assume responsibility for the co-ordination of course development activities leading to (i) a major degree programme and (ii) Dip.H.E. in the areas of Administrative and Office Communication Studies.

Lecturer II (Ref. AA/228)

(Re-advertisement)

with a general and/or office management background to teach Management Skills across the courses located within the School.

School of Organisation Studies

Research Assistant in Industrial Relations (Ref. AA/229)

Required to work on an ESRC funded project from September 1985 for a period of 3 years. The research is concerned with examining the dynamics of joint consultation in practice, and it will focus on a small number of organisations.

Applicants should possess a good degree (or equivalent) in a relevant subject, and a Masters degree in Industrial Relations or Manpower Studies would be advantageous.

Informal enquiries to Mick Marchington.

School of Economics

Senior Lecturer in Economics/Industrial Placement Tutor (Ref. AA/230)

Applicants should be capable of teaching in one or more areas of Economics preferably to degree level, and will join a team responsible for finding industrial placements and preparing students for these placements.

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer II in Business/Managerial Economics (Ref. AA/231)

Applicants should be capable of teaching business or managerial economics to degree level, and should have experience of the operations of business organisations.

School of Management Sciences

Lecturer II in Quantitative Business Analysis (Ref. AA/232)

Temporary one year appointment from September 1985 to teach quantitative methods on a wide range of CMAA and BTEC courses.

Lecturer II in Marketing (Ref. AA/233)

(Re-advertisement)

To teach marketing on CMAA degree and BTEC diploma courses and to contribute to an extensive programme of marketing consultancy. Salary Scales (under review)

Principal Lecturer £13,085 to £14,589 (Bar) to £18,487

Senior Lecturer £11,175 to £13,189 (Bar) to £14,061

Lecturer II £7,806 to £12,085

Research Assistant £2,405 to £2,715

Application form and further details obtainable from the Personnel Office, Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston, PR1 2TQ, Tel. (0772) 282027 quoting the appropriate reference number.

Closing date: 4th June 1985.

LANCASHIRE POLYTECHNIC AT PRESTON

COLLEGES

SURREY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NORTH EAST SURREY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, Reigate Road, Reigate, Surrey KT8 3DS

Applications are invited for the following posts to be filled with effect from September 1, 1985

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN BUSINESS STUDIES

LECTURER I IN ACCOUNTING (Temporary Post - 1 year full-time)

LECTURER I IN ANIMAL SCIENCE

Salary Scale: Principal Lecturer: £13,085 to £14,589 Bar £18,487

Senior Lecturer: £11,175 to £13,189 Bar £14,061

Lecturer: £7,806 to £12,085 Bar £12,085

Further details and application form from The Staffing Office, The Polytechnic Wolverhampton WV1 1SS or telephone Wolverhampton (0902) 710654 (ansaphone).

Shrewsbury College of Arts & Technology

London Road, Shrewsbury SY1 6PR. Tel. 01494

LECTURER II IN HEALTH AND NURSING EDUCATION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Nurses/Tutors to teach in Pre-Nursing, Nursing, Health Studies and Health Education Council courses.

LECTURER II IN ELECTRONICS/MICROPROCESSOR BASED SYSTEMS

Applications are invited from graduates or equivalent with appropriate industrial experience.

Further particulars and application forms for both posts are obtainable from the Principal, Shrewsbury College of Arts and Technology, London Road, Shrewsbury, to whom they should be returned as soon as possible.

SOUTH GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL

HIGHER EDUCATION (Cardiff)

RESEARCH FELLOW: CERAMICS

Candidates are hereby expected to have a degree based first or higher degree in Ceramics and wish to research into the technical aspects of ceramics in support of their study or design related interests.

Salary: Half Minimum Lecturer Grade 2 - £3,774. (Under Review)

Post tenable for 2 years commencing September 1, 1985.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from The Personnel Officer, South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education, Cyncoed Road, Cardiff CF3 5ED (Telephone 0222 501111, Ext 3145). Completed application forms should be returned within fourteen days of the publication of this advertisement.

MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

LECTURER II IN HAIRDRESSING

£7,546-£12,085. Ref. A/W/75/11

South Manchester Community College

Wythenshawe Park, Wythenshawe, Manchester M22 9BQ

Telephone No: 061-902 0131.

To lead an enthusiastic team in developing hairdressing at South Manchester Community College and to teach up to Advanced level City & Guilds. You should have an industrial background and experience in further education.

Closing date: May 28, 1985.

Application forms and further details available from the Senior Administrative Officer at the above address.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

BISHOP GROSSETESTE COLLEGE

LINCOLN LN1 2DT

Applications are invited for the following posts:

TUTOR

with special reference to further study of education and language development. Significant experience with 5-8 years age range essential. Ref. A/W/75/11

TUTOR IN EDUCATIONAL DRAMA AND PRIMARY EDUCATION

Significant experience in Educational Drama essential. Ref. A/W/75/11

Salary Scale: Lecturer Grade II/Senior Lecturer. Closing date for applications May 27, 1985.

Further details from The Principal, Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln LN1 2DT. Tel. 0522 275471.

London Borough of Newham

WEST HAM COLLEGE

LECTURER I ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Required from September 1, 1985. To teach Engineering and/or Electrical Engineering courses. City & Guilds and BTEC. Previous teaching experience in not essential. Ref. A/W/75/11

For further information please send a SAE to the Acting Principal, West Ham College, Ullenhall Road, London E6 9PL. Tel. 01-555 1400.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

London Borough of Newham

WEST HAM COLLEGE

EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS OF

To teach the above-named subject to rank or more of the following courses: GCSE, City and Guilds Foundation course in Nursing Studies, Community Care, VET, NIBS, etc. Experience in this area of work is essential and teaching experience would be most desirable. Ref. A/W/75/11

For further information please send a SAE to the Acting Principal, West Ham College, Ullenhall Road, London E6 9PL. Tel. 01-555 1400.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Humberside County Council

All applications for posts should be sent to the Director of Education, Humberside County Council, 100 Victoria Road, Lincoln LN1 3BA.

Senior Catering Officer

Southbay Senior Range (points 16-20) £10,715-£11,869

EDUCATION CATERING SERVICE - FULL DIVISION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons with experience in the Catering industry, preferably including a period in the Education Catering Service. This post offers opportunities for professional growth, enthusiasm and management skills in one of the four divisions of Humberside County Council. The successful applicant will work as a member of the County Catering Team. Candidates must hold a recognised qualification in catering, such as a City & Guilds Final Membership, or an HND in Catering or an allied subject.

Closing date: 31st May 1985.

To obtain application forms please write, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to the Director of Education, Humberside County Council, 100 Victoria Road, Lincoln LN1 3BA.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

SERC Case Studentships and Research Assistantships in Organic Chemistry

Applications are invited for the following grants in the Department of Chemistry:

(a) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCAS Group. The project will involve an investigation of novel bicyclic compounds in the synthesis of pharmaceutical intermediates. (Dr J. H. Brown and Dr J. H. Brown)

(b) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCAS Group. The project will involve an investigation of novel bicyclic compounds in the synthesis of pharmaceutical intermediates. (Dr J. H. Brown and Dr J. H. Brown)

(c) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCAS Group. The project will involve an investigation of novel bicyclic compounds in the synthesis of pharmaceutical intermediates. (Dr J. H. Brown and Dr J. H. Brown)

Appointments will be made at the appropriate point on the following scales:

Lecturer: £7,546 - £12,085 (under review)

Senior Lecturer: £11,175 - £14,061 (under review)

Exceptionally for suitably qualified candidates appointments may be made on a higher scale.

Anyone wishing further information should contact Professor PETER HENDERSON, Computing Science, Telephone: 01835 (0776) 73171 extension 2759, to whom a covering letter should be sent as soon as possible and in any case not later than 31st May, 1985.

Candidates should hold or expect to gain a good honours degree. Further details and application forms from Dr J. H. Brown or Dr J. H. Brown, Department of Chemistry, Loughborough University, Loughborough.

University of Stirling

Department of Computing Science

Lecturer and Research Assistant posts

These two new posts have been created in the Department of Computing Science. The project will involve an investigation of novel bicyclic compounds in the synthesis of pharmaceutical intermediates. (Dr J. H. Brown and Dr J. H. Brown)

Appointments will be made at the appropriate point on the following scales:

Lecturer: £7,546 - £12,085 (under review)

Senior Lecturer: £11,175 - £14,061 (under review)

Exceptionally for suitably qualified candidates appointments may be made on a higher scale.

Anyone wishing further information should contact Professor PETER HENDERSON, Computing Science, Telephone: 01835 (0776) 73171 extension 2759, to whom a covering letter

POLYTECHNICS

RESEARCH/RESEARCH AWARDS

Sunderland Polytechnic

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHING STUDIES

LECTURER II / SENIOR LECTURER / PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN

PRIMARY EDUCATION (EARLY YEARS)

Salary: £11,745 - £11,775 bar £12,099; £11,775 - £12,108 bar £12,441; £12,108 - £12,441 bar £12,783; £12,783 - £13,115 bar £13,457.

Applications are invited for the appointment from September 1, 1985 of a full-time teacher of primary education in the field of primary education. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of primary education in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of primary education in the region.

Applicants should possess appropriate academic qualifications and have a minimum of five years' experience in primary education. Successful candidates will be expected to contribute to the further development of primary education in the region.

Closing date for applications: May 31, 1985

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES

£3,101 - £3,310

Applications are invited for a post involving the study of the communication of information. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of communication studies in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of communication studies in the region.

Closing date for applications: May 31, 1985

Application forms and further particulars for both posts may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Sunderland Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or Tel: 0754 7001 ext 11.

MICRO TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

SUNDERLAND POLYTECHNIC IN WASHINGTON

Following the award of an Education Support Grant from the DES a unit is being established within the Micro Technology Centre to develop courseware materials to support the teaching within further education colleges, concerned with microcomputer applications in a business environment.

LECTURER/CO-ORDINATOR

L10/L11 Scale £7,448-£14,461

Fixed term to March 1986

To assess the needs of the local colleges, to liaise with other similar education support units both regionally and nationally, to co-ordinate the design and development of appropriate courseware materials.

Prospective applicants who are currently based in a college may wish to explore the possibility of secondment.

An application form and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Sunderland Polytechnic, Langham Tower, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11. Closing date May 31, 1985.

BRISTOL POLYTECHNIC

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER IN ENGLISH STUDIES

Applications are invited for the above post, entailing teaching at Honours Degree level of the A, Humanities and B, English degree courses. The main emphasis is in both degrees upon 19th and 20th century English literature, with elements of American and European literature. Candidates should possess a good Honours degree and have appropriate teaching and research experience.

Salary Scale: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum. The appointment will be made on the appropriate scale according to relevant previous experience. (Progression from the L11 scale to the L12 scale is in accordance with the provisions of the Burnham Further Education Report).

For further details and an application form, to be returned by May 31, 1985, please contact the Personnel Officer, Bristol Polytechnic, Coltham Road, Frenchay, Bristol, or Telephone Bristol 656261, Ext. 210 or 217.

Please quote Reference Number 136 in all communications.

Avon County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

HUDDERSFIELD POLYTECHNIC

COMPUTER STUDIES AND MATHEMATICS

LECTURER II/SENIOR LECTURER IN QUANTITATIVE METHODS

REF: ACA57

Candidates for this permanent post should have a good honours degree in Mathematics/Statistics and a minimum of three years' experience in teaching. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of quantitative methods in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of quantitative methods in the region.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms (to be returned by June 3, 1985) and further particulars from the Personnel Officer, Huddersfield Polytechnic, Huddersfield, HD1 3SD, please send S.A.E.

POLYTECHNIC OF THE SOUTH BANK

HOME ECONOMICS

RETRAINING DIPLOMA COURSE

HOME ECONOMICS DIPLOMA AND CONSUMER STUDIES

Applications are invited from qualified teachers who wish to return to full-time teaching. This course is a full-time course.

• Food and Nutrition
• Consumer Studies
• Health, Family and Community
• Professional Studies

For further information and application forms, please contact the Personnel Officer, Polytechnic of the South Bank, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

Leicester Polytechnic

School of Industrial Design

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN INTERIOR DESIGN

Post No. 213
£13,095-£14,500 (bar) £14,501-£15,910

Applicants should have a minimum of five years' experience in interior design. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of interior design in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of interior design in the region.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Leicester Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

Leicester Polytechnic

School of Industrial Design

PRINCIPAL LECTURER

Post No. 213
£13,095-£14,500 (bar) £14,501-£15,910

Applicants should have a minimum of five years' experience in industrial design. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of industrial design in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of industrial design in the region.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Leicester Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE POLYTECHNIC

LECTURER II (3 posts)

£11,745-£12,441

Faculty of Humanities

School of Education Studies

L11 IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

Ref: A2375

Suitable qualified and experienced candidates for post which will involve work in mathematics education in the field of primary education. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of mathematics education in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of mathematics education in the region.

School of English and History

L11 IN MODERN HISTORY

Ref: A2376

Candidates should have a good first degree as well as research and teaching experience. Post available from 1.9.85. Closing date for applications: 27.5.85.

Faculty of Art and Design

School of Fashion

L11 IN MENSWEAR DESIGN

Ref: A2375

Required for September 1985, person appointed should possess a degree or equivalent academic qualifications and have industrial experience. Closing date for applications: 22.5.85.

De-Advertisement

Faculty of Humanities

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

£3,101 - £3,310

Required for September 1985 to work on an ESRC funded project concerned with the evaluation of microcomputers in teaching. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of microcomputers in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of microcomputers in the region.

For further details and application forms please call our 24-hour telephone answering service (0931 220140) or write enclosing a S.A.E. to the Personnel Officer, Newcastle Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

SUNDERLAND AND TEESIDE POLYTECHNICS

NORTH EAST BIOTECHNOLOGY CENTRE

PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

£12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum

The North East Biotechnology Centre (NEBC) is a National Centre for Biotechnology based at Sunderland and Teesside Polytechnics. The Centre has a vacancy for a Principal Lecturer in the Biology Department of Sunderland Polytechnic.

The Department invites applications from persons with a background in cell and/or molecular biology who will contribute to the development of the Centre.

Within Sunderland the established research strengths are in applications of microbial and plant physiology, enzyme applications and separation techniques.

The appointee will be required to contribute to existing courses in Applied Biology and Biotechnology at B.Tec, B.Sc. and M.Sc. levels and to participate in the development of new courses to be offered by the Centre. He/she will be expected to contribute to the development of new research projects in Biotechnology and to further links between the Centre and industry.

An application form and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Sunderland Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

Closing date May 31, 1985.

City of Birmingham Polytechnic

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN

DEPARTMENT OF ART - HISTORY OF DESIGN

SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER II (2 Posts)

(Half or Full-time)

Post 1: History of Three Dimensional Design

Post 2: History of Graphic Design

Applications are invited for the above posts for the period of September 1, 1985, to March 31, 1986, from candidates qualified in History of Art, Design or Architecture to teach on the L11 or L12 scale. Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

For further details and application forms, to be returned by May 31, 1985, please contact the Personnel Officer, City of Birmingham Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

Please quote Reference Number 136 in all communications.

Avon County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Brighton Polytechnic

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

LECTURER II / SENIOR LECTURER (Two Posts)

Applications are invited for two posts in the area of Computing Engineering, Communication Engineering (particularly digital communications) or Digital Electronics. Candidates should have a good honours degree and have appropriate teaching and research experience.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Brighton Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

City of Birmingham Polytechnic

an Equal Opportunities Employer

FACULTY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

SENIOR LECTURER

£11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Applicants should have a minimum of five years' experience in architecture. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of architecture in the school and will be expected to contribute to the further development of architecture in the region.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, City of Birmingham Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

Middlesex Polytechnic

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

LECTURER II / SENIOR LECTURER (Two Posts)

Applications are invited for two posts in the area of Computing Engineering, Communication Engineering (particularly digital communications) or Digital Electronics. Candidates should have a good honours degree and have appropriate teaching and research experience.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Middlesex Polytechnic, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

City of Coventry Polytechnic

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANT

£3,101 - £3,310

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Department of Inorganic, Physical and Industrial Chemistry

SENIOR CASE STUDENTSHIPS IN ELECTROCHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following SENIOR CASE STUDENTSHIPS leading to a Ph.D. degree, under the supervision of Dr. R. G. Compton in the following areas:

1. Electrochromic materials and devices based on poly-oxo-quinones and related compounds.
2. Electrochemistry based on phase transfer catalysis and related phenomena.
3. Rotating disc studies of the inhibition of calcium carbonate deposition with chelate-industrial complexes.
4. Redox catalysis in electrochemical cells.

Applicants for these studentships should hold or expect to hold a good honours degree and have a good knowledge of electrochemistry. The posts are available from October 1, 1985. Informal enquiries may be made to Dr. R. G. Compton, Tel: 0151 709 5282, ext. 3547.

Applications together with the names of two referees should be received by June 1, 1985, to the Registrar, The University, PO Box 147, Queens Road, Liverpool, L69 3GB.

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

E.S.R.C. LINKED RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Presupposition in Man-Machine Dialogue

Applications are invited from students who have, or expect to obtain a good honours degree (1st or 2.1) in Computing and/or AI. The successful candidate will be expected to have a good grounding in cognitive psychology.

Enquiries to: Professor Alan Kennedy, Department of Psychology, University of Dundee, DD1 4HN. Tel: 0330 24181 ext. 4000.

Closing date - May 31, 1985.

UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER

Department of Engineering

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

CHINESE AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Applications are invited for the above posts which are of the post of Research Assistant in the Department of Engineering, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster, LA1 4YW.

The closing date for applications is June 30, 1985.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL STUDIES

SENC RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

IN NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR NEW MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY

The project is concerned with investigating the changing role, functions and personnel requirements of manufacturing personnel in the new manufacturing technology. The project will be conducted within a company (particularly in the micro-electronics industry) in liaison with the University.

Applicants are invited from highly motivated graduates or students who have completed or expect to complete a degree in Engineering, Management, or a related interdisciplinary subject.

Informal discussions relating to this studentship can be arranged by telephoning Mr. J. A. Adams, Director of Industrial Studies, on 0151 709 5282, ext. 3547.

Applications, together with the names of two referees, should be received by June 1, 1985, to the Registrar, The University, PO Box 147, Liverpool, L69 3GB.

Aston University

DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR SCIENCES

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

A position is currently available for a post-doctoral research fellow in the Department of Molecular Sciences, Aston University, Birmingham. The successful candidate will be expected to have a good honours degree and have appropriate research experience.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, Aston University, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

STUDENTSHIP IN DESIGN RESEARCH

Applications are invited for a post-doctoral research fellow in the Department of Design, The Open University, Milton Keynes. The successful candidate will be expected to have a good honours degree and have appropriate research experience.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, The Open University, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

DEPARTMENT OF POLYMER SCIENCE

PRE-DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for the above post which is of the post of Pre-doctoral Research Assistant in the Department of Polymer Science, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University of Leeds, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLYMER SCIENCE

Applications are invited for the above post which is of the post of Research Assistant in the Department of Polymer Science, University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PL.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University of Manchester, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLYMER SCIENCE

Applications are invited for the above post which is of the post of Research Assistant in the Department of Polymer Science, University of Manchester, Manchester, M13 9PL.

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING

MATHEMATICS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Active Hydrodynamic and Spinning Fibre

Applications are invited for the above post which is of the post of Mathematics Research Associate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE1 7RU.

Salary: £11,745 to £11,775 (bar) to £12,099 per annum. £12,108 to £12,441 (bar) to £12,783 per annum.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, 100, Rye Road, Sunderland, S.R. 1 2EE or telephone 0754 7001 ext. 11.

UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER

SCHOOL OF INDEPENDENT STUDIES

RESEARCH/RESEARCH AWARDS

Leicester University

EARMARKED STUDENTSHIPS IN CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following "Earmarked" S.E.R.C. Studentships leading to the degree of Ph.D.

(i) "Design and Synthesis of Novel Enzyme Inhibitors" supervised by Dr. P. M. Callaghan. The project will involve the synthesis of novel nucleoside analogues as potential inhibitors of important phosphatases and nucleoside transferase enzymes. The project will provide training in synthesis, modern instrumentation particularly high-field NMR, and analytical techniques such as HPLC.

(ii) "Quantitative NMR Studies of the Dynamic Behaviour of Macromolecules in Solution" supervised by Dr. D. L. Turner. This will involve the use of NMR techniques to study the conformational dynamics of polymers and multistate exchange in model systems. Applicants should have interests in radiofrequency spectroscopy and computing and will receive training in modern NMR techniques and their application to polymer science.

Candidates should hold or expect at least a 2:1 degree in Chemistry or a related subject. Applications including a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees or requesters, should be sent to the Registrar, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING ENGINEERING

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS

Applications are invited for three SERC research studentships tenable for three years from October, 1985 as follows:

- A quota studentship for the study of the rheology of cementitious materials under a controlled stress rheometer at very low shear rates.
- A quota studentship with BP Research Centre Ltd. to determine the influence of rheology on the stability of oil well cement slurry systems.
- A quota studentship for research in any area of Building Engineering, current interests include: structural analysis, transmission, thermal systems, environmental and control, thermal response, structural dynamics, and the management of the construction process.

Candidates having interests in other fields are also welcome to apply.

Applicants must hold or expect to obtain a first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject. For further information, contact the Registrar, University of Liverpool, P.O. Box 147 Liverpool L69 3BX. Quota Ref. NV/20/85.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED ZOOLOGY

SERC RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

(CASE award with Rothamsted Experimental Station)

Applications are invited for the above studentship, tenable for up to three years from October, 1985.

The work will be concerned with the general lack of methods other than differential culture for recognition of ultra-specific variation within those plant parasitic nematodes that have agronomic significance. The postgraduate will develop techniques and analytical approaches to overcome this problem using species and races within the genus *Ditylenchus*. Periods of research will be spent at both the University and the Rothamsted Experimental Station.

Applicants should have, or expect to graduate with, good Honours degree in Agricultural Zoology, Zoology, Genetics, or an appropriate biological science. They should submit applications, citing three scientific referees, to Dr. H. J. Atkinson, Department of Pure and Applied Zoology, University of Leeds LS2 9JT (Tel. 0532 431761, Ext. 380), from whom further particulars are available. The closing date for applications is June 17, 1985.

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Human resource production technology.

Technology and third world development.

Applicants for these studentships should hold or expect to obtain a good honours degree in a relevant subject.

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University of Nottingham

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

TRACE ELEMENTS IN COAL LIQUEFACTION EXTRACTS

A Research Fellow is required to investigate the nature of the trace elements in coal liquefaction extracts using modern analytical techniques. The two year project is funded by the SERC and the applicant will be a Chemist with Ph.D. and relevant experience. Ref No. 950.

BATCH PROCESS COMPUTER AIDS

A Research Fellow and a Research Assistant are required for the development of model-based digital computer aids for batch processes. Chemical engineers with industrial experience are preferred. Support is under a research contract with Warren Spring Laboratory of the SERC. The Fellow should have a Ph.D. and a background in process dynamics and simulation but other relevant experience will be considered. The applicant will be responsible for the progress of the work, including that of the Assistant who will be a graduate well versed in computer. Registration for a higher degree may be possible. Fellow Ref No. 952A, Assistant Ref No. 952B.

Further particulars and application forms, returnable not later than May 15, 1985, may be obtained from the Staff Selection Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. PLEASE QUOTE RELEVANT REFERENCE NUMBER.

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DIARY

IT WAS West Yorkshire's turn yesterday to experience the whirlwind that is Edwina Currie, the noisy Conservative member for Derby South.

Staff at BBC Radio Leeds were struggling to cope with the aftermath of the Bradford fire — the biggest story to hit West Yorkshire for some time — when a harrier arrived. He was a local Tory polytechnic student announcing that Mrs Currie was in the area and would very much like to be interviewed. A message was sent back saying that there was no-one around to interview, but thanks anyway.

Mrs Currie appeared in person at the station shortly after lunch, demanding an interview. She was told over the intercom that it could not be arranged. There was a squawk of "Right, I'm coming up," and the station's news editor was despatched to fend off the invasion.

The argument that ensued was fierce. It climaxed when Mrs Currie seized the hapless BBC man's arm and demanded: "Do you want me to vote for an increase in the licence fee? The station manager eventually persuaded her she was wasting her time. We will have to follow the Hansard voting records with care.

THE remorseless campaign by Mr Tony Banks, Neucham MP, to turn up examples of alleged extravagance within the Department of the Environment has uncovered the annual cost of running Mr Jenkin's official car — £28,000 — as well as the sum spent last year on three-piece suits for DoE ministers — £17.13.

THE CND badge continues to arouse unbecomingly strong passions. Buckinghamshire's chief librarian, Mr Roy Collis, has threatened disciplinary proceedings against Mrs Margaret Storm, a district librarian due to retire shortly, if she persists in wearing her badge during working hours.

Devon CND has meanwhile invited local Tory MP Sir Frederick Bennett to join up, having read his recent pamphlet, "Reds Under the Bed." In it Sir Frederick lays into infringements of civil liberties in East Germany, claims the action of East German school teachers in refusing to allow pupils to wear UN badges, or even badges reading "Swords into Ploughshares." Just like Devon County Council and CND badges, in fact.

STAFF at the Central Office of Information have "imagined it" — become the latest recruit to the cause of freedom of, well, information. The COI Branch of Professional Civil Servants has tabled a motion for next week's annual conference calling for the repeal of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act and congratulating Olive Ponting on his acquittal.

A SCOTTISH publisher, Labarum, has recently published a book seeking to advance the cause of Christian feminism — Freeing the Feminine, by Elspeth and Gordon Strachan. The book was well reviewed and Labarum thought it would be nice to try to have it promoted during Feminist Book Fortnight. Well, it would have been nice, but the FBF organisers turned it down. Gordon may be a feminist, but he's also a man.

BRITISH AIRWAYS is about to unveil a new range of uniforms for its staff. It appears that no location in Britain will quite do, and so BA is to fly the British press to Nice for a launch in the Palm Beach Casino in Cannes. Depart 10 a.m., back at 7 p.m.

JOHN POWLEY, Tory MP for Norwich South, appears not to be blessed with the strongest grasp of logic. Witness his reply to a constituent who had written to him expressing anxieties about MI5 surveillance of CND: "I have been told," runs Mr Powley's letter, "that the CND themselves keep a file on each MP to record their activities and views for future use against them. If that were true, that would constitute an infringement of personal liberty and a dangerous practice, especially in view of some of the undesirable people who claim to be members of the CND, but it is only a rumour and it doesn't worry me one little bit."

Nice one, John.

— THE Falklands Now the most exciting place in the World — Front page headline in Falkland Islands Newsletter.

Alan Rusbridger



Above: The March 8 car bomb havoc in a Beirut suburb. Right: William Casey, head of the CIA

ALEX BRUMMER reports from Washington on the background to the 'dirty tricks' campaign launched in the Lebanon

Why the CIA primed the blast of terror

THE disclosure of a CIA link to the car bombing which killed 80 people in Beirut last March has predictably provoked an outcry in Congress and among critics of President Reagan who are always looking for reasons to bash the unattractive CIA director, Mr William Casey.

The carelessness in Beirut is naturally being equated with other blunders, including the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the infamous assassination manual which surfaced in the heat of last year's presidential election battle. This is the view of Admiral Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA in the Carter years, who believes that Mr Casey's "mismanagement of the agency" may be due to his wartime background.

Admiral Turner, in his shortly-to-be published memoirs, Secretary of Defense, argues that Mr Casey's background in the OSS (the Office of Strategic Studies) the wartime precursor of the CIA, has led him down a dangerous path. "Almost any covert action to help win the

war was considered within bounds," Admiral Turner notes. He adds, "Translating this attitude to the peacetime 1980s was a serious mistake."

It is relatively easy for Admiral Turner, from the comfort of his retirement, to make the case for a more research-orientated and analytical CIA of the kind he developed in the Carter administration. But the fact is that the CIA under Jimmy Carter was a disaster. It totally failed at every turn to predict the course of events in Iran, and its misreading of signals eventually led to US humiliation during the hostage crisis which didn't end until a President who had committed himself to a war on terrorism took the oath of office.

Indeed, many intelligence experts argue that the only way to deal with terrorism is to use wartime techniques. In the aftermath of the Beirut bombing of October 22, 1983, when 241 marines were killed, the administration's natural inclination was to retaliate, using the forces at

its disposal offshore. It allowed the battleship New Jersey to unload its fearsome 16-inch shells on areas of the Lebanon believed to be occupied by the perpetrators — the Hizballah (Party of God) group — and attempted at least one direct air-strike.

But within the US, the Congress's Vietnam syndrome was playing havoc with Secretary of State George Shultz's determination to exact revenge. It became impossible for the US to directly involve itself militarily under the threat of the War Powers Act and at a time when it was taking heat from its partners in the multinational peacekeeping force. There was a search for alternative ways of striking back at the enemy and it was Bill Casey's CIA, which was dragged into the conflict almost by default.

With no overt means of striking back at those forces which had murdered marines in their bunks and left the Reagan administration's Middle East policy in tatters, the CIA was called upon to

develop a counter-insurgency operation in the country — the kind of technique which other intelligence organisations use with impunity.

For Casey's CIA, however, the options were severely limited. Congressional mandate prevents the CIA from "doing a James Bond," as one Washington intelligence expert put it yesterday. The agency is legally banned from conducting assassinations, and indeed the smell of its involvement in such plans, as the row over the Central American manual stated, can be politically explosive.

This meant that the CIA, to be in a position of hitting back at the terrorist group responsible for the marine attack and other bombings of American targets, had to work through established groups operating in the Lebanon. It is now clear from Bob Woodward's authoritative reporting in the Washington Post and subsequent confirmation on Capitol Hill and in the administration that one of those groups went rogue. As a result, it

ended up killing 80 people and injuring scores of others, but not Hussein Fadlallah, whose extreme fundamentalist organisation, the Party of God was conducting a highly successful campaign against any American role in the Middle East.

It is easy to argue that the CIA should have never been there in the first place. But it is also easy to understand the frustration of an administration which has rallied publicly against terrorism, but had been the victim of too many attacks without successful reprisal.

As Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a former member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, with a sound sense of moral values, pointed out yesterday, "My personal view was good luck to the CIA. He had always assumed that the CIA would be working with intelligence and other groups in the region in pursuit of American interests."

The Israelis, among others, have learned there are particular risks in getting involved in the Byzantine

world of Lebanese politics, intelligence and terrorism. Indeed, the case can be strongly made that someone in the administration should have warned President Reagan more clearly of the potential hazards of reprisals and counter-insurgency in such an environment. However, CIA-backed operations in the region may have worked — except the public wouldn't know about them because of the refusal within the administration to talk publicly about intelligence matters.

Indeed, one of the more intriguing questions about the Woodward disclosure is how did they find their way into print in the face of this intelligence ban? In the view of Dr Robert Kupperman, an intelligence and terrorism expert at the Georgetown Centre for Strategic and International Studies, the leak and others like them reflect the policy debate going on within Casey's CIA.

In Dr Kupperman's view, the quality of Woodward's information on this occasion

and last year, when he disclosed details of the group behind the attack, could have only come from the CIA. The information was so accurate it could have only come from within the agency itself," Dr Kupperman observed. The leaks provide those within the CIA, seeking to limit its activities in the Middle East with a way of getting their message across.

Such disclosures suggest that Mr Casey, far from having stamped his liking for adventurism in far-off lands all over the agency, is still encountering pockets of strong resistance from those who believe in greater restraints and more emphasis on analysis than covert operations. So there are internal pressures within the CIA which are still acting as a counterweight to the worst excesses of Chile and a dozen other places in the Nixon era. If activism is restrained, as recent successes against Libyan plots in Sudan and Chad demonstrate, it is not always even though it remains risky and dangerous.

The good look that sees no evil

IN THE WORK of the security services, state power is seen at its most dangerous. It is completely uninvigilated. What MI5 gets up to is, from the point of view of the citizen, a closed book. Only a few select cases — a Michael Bettaney, who cracks up and tries to defect, or a Cathy Massier, who leaves the service and blows the whistle on phone-tapping — provide a glimpse into some of the pages.

Occasionally, as with these two, they offer a lesson in the culture as well as the facts of security; a lesson which there is another opportunity to act on later this week.

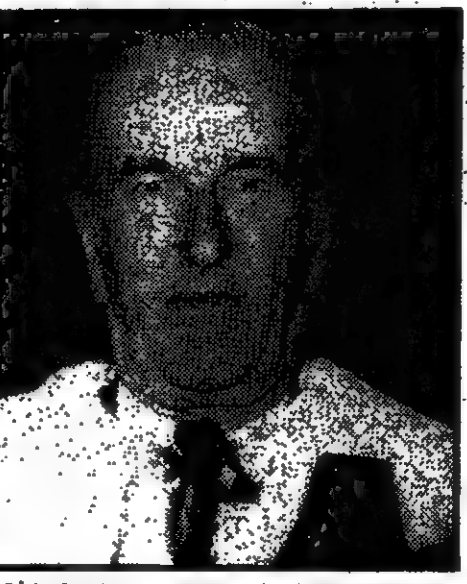
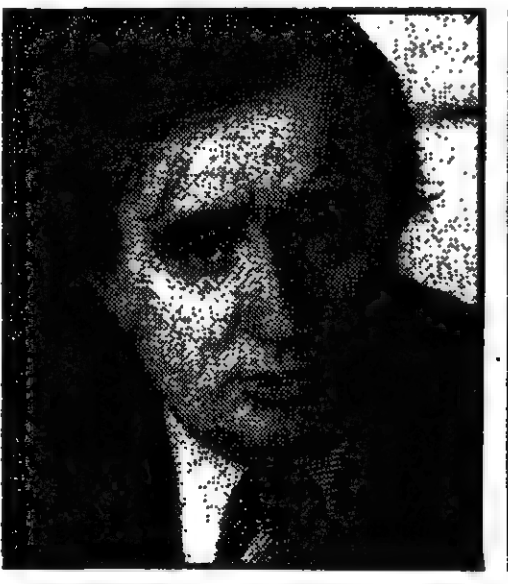
The politicians, of course, deny that there is no invigilation. They say that they provide it. Ministers are the citizen's guarantors against both inefficiency and impropriety by the security men. And behind ministers stands Parliament. The Prime Minister reporting to Parliament, as she has just done on the Bettaney case, ensures she would contend, proper democratic control over abuses of state power.

Upon inspection, however, this reporting seems to be of limited value. Not only is it hedged about by a deep reluctance to answer questions, but these questions, when posed, are all too often fessed by a cut rebuttal. Everything that is now done, the Prime Minister says, was also done under previous governments.

Since Labour governments refused to answer questions, Labour oppositions have no business asking them. Further, to lock the door on all inquiries, the SDP-Liberal Alliance is also implicated. Is it not an SDP peer, Lord Hymns of Greenwich, whose off-the-cuff definition of subversion in 1977 is now the locus classicus?

Rarely can the citizen have been more aware of government as a kind of conspiracy. These are the governors, all of one mind and one record, whatever their party. And there are the rest of us, virtually defenceless, with the opposition neutered and the government clinging righteously to silence.

But ministers are not in default to the problem this raises. We are not exactly in Czechoslovakia. They want to appear to be fulfilling democratic requirements. So instead of answers, they offer something else. Trust us, they say, and trust the system we monitor. Trust MI5 on which we impose severe discipline. Trust the Security Commission, four great and



Left: Lord Harris. Right: Lord Justice Bridge

COMMENTARY

Hugo Young

good and decent men. Trust Lord Bridge, its chairman, who also looks after phone-tapping.

So the question is: is such trust justified? Can government, in this area where the culture of generations permits it to shelter in secrecy, be relied on to behave as well as well as it betrays where scrutiny is less easily evaded?

With some reason, the Thatcher Government claims to be able to answer yes to that question. Mrs Thatcher has been unusually open in discussing security breakdowns. Through the cases of Blunt, Prime and now Bettaney, Parliament has been told more than it knew about aspects of the secret world. To the extent that this has demystified that world and opened its foetid air, thick with unwhinging obsequies, to ventilation, it can only be beneficial.

These breakdowns, however, are not the limit of the citizen's interest. He clearly has a very large interest in efficient security. The damage done by traitors, and the threat posed by incompetent security, can be enormous. But when we talk about invigilation, it's not entirely because this might improve working practices. It has more to do with the old-fashioned fear that absolute

power may be just slightly corrupting.

As the story of an organisation in which we are invited to repose our trust on this account, the Security Commission's report on MI5 and Bettaney is not encouraging. It shows an agency prepared to tolerate massive drunkenness and unreliability in one of its own, and even to promote him. This was very bad for security. It is also quite bad for any hope that there were an officer to err not against security but against liberty — say, by engaging in illicit surveillance — there would be the smallest expectation of his being disciplined.

Another strand in the same pattern is provided by the account of how Bettaney was unmasked. This resulted from the evidence of two junior operatives who went to his superior. They are rightly commended. But contrast this with what happened when Ms Cathy Massier, troubled by excesses of a different kind, went to her superiors. Because her anxiety concerned a point about liberty — the illicit use of phone-tapping — and not about security, she was sent to a Harley Street psychiatrist as a preliminary to leaving the service.

A still larger cloud hangs

over this question of trust. Plainly, MI5 does not deserve it. But is the Security Commission any better? Is even a particle of its concern reserved for the threat MI5's zeal may pose to liberty, as distinct from the threat its incompetence poses to security?

It must be doubted. The commission has published a good few reports. It seems to meet often — 17 meetings on Bettaney alone — but always with a view to tightening up security rather than asking questions about anyone's rights, save, possibly, those of members of the security service itself. In exercising his most specific libertarian responsibility, moreover, Lord Bridge has been a pathetic failure. As the man in charge of the rules about phone-tapping, he has managed to find not a single error of judgment and not one case of unjustified surveillance in the more than 6,000 taps which Home Secretaries have authorised.

But the vortex of mistrust

MARTIN WALKER reports from Moscow on a Russian growth industry

The seeds of a revolution

FOR the average Russian city-dweller, it looks as if the first symbol of the Gorbachev era is an allotment. The Politburo has authorised a series of measures designed to increase the number of private gardens, to provide the gardeners with seeds and garden tools — and to produce a heavy boost to the state's production of fruit and vegetables.

In a way, the government is simply catching up on a boom which has been sweeping the country for some years. At Moscow's private markets, now spring is here, the busiest stalls are the ones selling seed packets. In the past three years, 5,000 shops have been authorised to start stocking goods for private gardens — and these have already proved too few for the soaring demand.

On Sunday evening, just before 6 p.m., gardeners throughout the country tune in to "Nash Sad" (Our Garden) for the weekly tips. A professor of soil chemistry tells you how to rotate vegetable crops for best results, and in keeping with the Soviet passion for official expertise, "Nash Sad" arranges Sarganova shows how best to arrange your flowers once you have grown them.

The search for an allotment is taking Muscovites further and further afield. It was only last year that a fairly prestigious engineering research institute received its land allocation. It was over 80 miles from Moscow, on poor land that had been lying waste. And yet, such was the rush among the staff, that people were limited to plots of 20 square metres.

Part of the popularity of these allotments is explained by the passion for dachas, the country cottages. To buy even a modest one within easy range of Moscow will cost over 10,000 roubles, and a dacha with three rooms and a kitchen will cost nearer 30,000 roubles. One Moscow acquaintance, who ten years ago bought her dacha for 6,000 roubles, has now been offered 25,000 roubles for it. It contains two rooms and a kitchen.

The allotment is the cheap option. Once it has been dug, planted, and harvested, the owner is allowed to put up a garden shed — and, with a

little creative interpretation of the rules, a shed can become a small dacha.

The state has a register of over five million allotment holders, and estimates that they contribute each year over a million tons of fruit and vegetables to the Soviet diet. They also produce poultry, rabbits, honey and a considerable proportion of the "samogon," home-produced vodka, which threatens to outdrink the state's planned crack-down on alcoholism.

The Politburo's decision to help the private gardener has been accompanied by a series of encouraging articles in the Soviet press on the social benefits of the allotments.

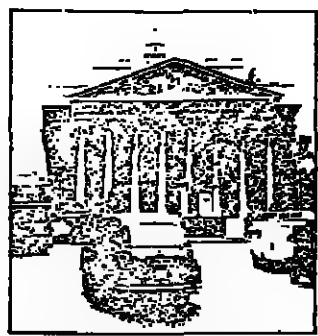
A private allotment can be a licence to print money in a country with such a deep-rooted passion (doubtless fed by long winters) for flowers. A ten-square metre garden of daffodils will be worth up to a thousand roubles when sold by the bunch at the Moscow markets.

The Politburo's decision also endorsed an experiment that has been under way in two of Moscow's rural districts — to allow the cooperative farms to hire their mini-tractors and specialised tools to private gardeners at weekends.

So far, the Soviet propaganda system has yet to recall that old British slogan — "Dig for Victory." But with the current passion for wartime nostalgia, it can only be a matter of time.



Wellcome in the markets, of course, but there are costs as well as benefits



NOTEBOOK

Hamish McRae

WHAT — aside from money — can a public flotation give to a corporation enjoying some form of trustee ownership?

The vast bulk of companies seeking the status of a public quote fall into two groups: small or smallish private companies wanting money to expand; and large companies which for historical reasons are part of the public sector and are being privatised.

But there is a third group, of which the Wellcome Foundation is one, where a substantial company seeks a quote because its owners in some way or other are unhappy with the existing arrangement.

Politics aside, most usually there are two reasons for public floats. One is the desire of the owners to release capital for investment elsewhere (or in the case of the government to reduce taxes). The other is that the enterprise itself needs to raise more funds to expand. If you look at most normal floats the motive is some combination of the two. British Aerospace's latest issue is an excellent example of this dual function.

How does Wellcome fit into this pattern?

The nearest recent analogy to Wellcome is probably Reuters, where the company was owned by a trust whose members needed to realise some of their investment in simple financial terms it was not prudent for the newspaper which owned Reuters to hold such a large proportion of their total assets in one enterprise.

There were other advantages, to be sure. An important one was that the company needed to find another source of investment funds than ploughed-back profits. But the need for the owners to release capital was paramount.

The other slightly similar case is that of the proposed float of the Daily Telegraph group, where the overriding motive is to raise funds for new investment.

In each case the owners have sought to retain control of the enterprise, so that there is no direct impact of the change in ownership on

existing managerial aims and aspirations. In other words the owners want shareholder participation in ownership without ceasing shareholder participation in management. Some investors are happy to go along with this; others object.

In the case of Wellcome the twin motives are very much there. The trustees, perfectly sensibly, want to reduce the eggs in the one basket. (If you want an example of a trust which was tardy in reducing its investment in the original enterprise, look at the National Foundation. Its reluctance to cut its investment in the old British Motor Company now limits the fund's charitable work.)

However, the trustees can reasonably argue that Wellcome could advance more quickly if it were, as a public quoted company, able to borrow against the security of the quote.

What Wellcome has done brilliantly — and it has not stopped it from being a large and successful enterprise — is developing drugs which have enormous social value, but limited commercial return. Compare the social impact and profitability of Valium (developed by the utterly commercial Roche) and the vaccines for tropical diseases (developed particularly by Wellcome).

If you want a personal example of the value of Wellcome, check the foreign travel jobs recorded in your passport, and you will probably see the Wellcome name stamped there.

None of this is to say that Wellcome is now going to reinvent the tranquilliser; mercifully medical ethics are rumbling that scene away. The public quoted company is a wonderful invention. But surely any society needs a different form of ownership, ranging from state ownership, through co-operatives, quoted companies, partnerships and the like, to ownership by single individuals.

In 20 years time the current rush to float will seem as odd as the last generation's preoccupation with nationalisation.

Bullion for US

MIND you, nationalisation has its uses. Whatever judgment you make about the nationalisation of Johnson Matthey Bankers, the Bank of England does now possess a valuable asset, in its bullion house and banking subsidiary.

We tend to forget that the nation now owns JMB and accordingly MPs who should know better fuss about the way the Bank keeps on putting money into it. In fact while you can reasonably criticise the process by which we all, via the Bank, became owners of JMB, it is illogical to criticise the Bank for lending its own subsidiary money, or as yesterday preparing to fatten it prior to sale.

JMB is not one of the City's most glittering prizes, in banking terms, but come a gold boom (perfectly possible as the dollar slides) it could become extremely attractive to any would-be entrant into London bullion trading. Money put into it now merely increases the value at sale.

The Bank has taken a lot of stick for its handling of the whole matter. To redeem itself it has to do two things. The first is to run JMB so brilliantly that the enterprise is worth a lot more in a year's time when it comes to be sold than it is now.

The second is to get out there on the hustings and sell it in the most determined and vigorous way.

For the record, to break even it needs first to get back the £100 million it has put in, plus interest. Then it needs another £65 million to cover the indemnities. Anything over £180 million and we show a profit.

Capital injection as bad debts confirmed at £245m Bank wants £100m-plus for JMB

By Peter Rodgers, City Editor

The Bank of England is to inject £100 million capital into Johnson Matthey Bankers, as a prelude to selling it back next year to the private sector for a price it expects to be at least as high.

The Bank also confirmed that Johnson Matthey's bad debts were £245 million, to which it will contribute £32.5 million of Bank of England money under an indemnity scheme to which a group of banks will contribute a further £32.5 million.

This brings the Bank of England's total involvement in the rescued bank to £100 million capital plus £32.5 million under the indemnity scheme together with the funding costs of the capital until the even-

tual sale. However, it said it "expects its £100 million investment to be returned intact when the Bank's present involvement comes to an end."

The £245 million of bad debts brought about the collapse of JMB last autumn, followed by its rescue by the Bank of England. The bad debts included large sums owed by traders involved with Nigeria and other Third World countries as well as funds lent to entrepreneurs such as Mr Mahmoud Sipra, a US businessman.

JMB's problems were "brought about by inadequate control and imprudent lending" and an over-concentration of injudicious loans, said the Bank, which added that other parts of JMB's business, including gold bullion continue to trade profitably.

Although the Bank acknowledged that there could be changes in the total of bad debt provisions, it said it thought the £245 million was adequate. Of the debts, £225 million have been discovered since the collapse and the Bank of England is understood to be considering suing JMB's auditors, Arthur Young McLellan Moore.

Initially, the Bank could sue, as it was not the client. The cleaned-up balance sheet together with the attractions of owning one of the elite groups of London gold bullion houses are the Bank of England's strongest cards in achieving the £100 million plus price it wants for JMB. There have been number of expressions of interest in purchasing it,

but nobody has got down to details.

The Bank said that the new capital "does not involve a fresh commitment of resources since the provision of new capital will allow the deposit of £100 million made by the Bank of England in November 1984 to be repaid."

However, in political terms what amounts to an exchange of risk capital is like to be taken by parliamentary critics as undermining the Bank's case that the £100 million last autumn did not put additional public funds at risk.

SIP leader David Owen, a leading critic of the Bank's handling of the affair, is likely to point to the fact that £132.5 million of public money will now be either committed or at risk in JMB.



Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Bank governor

PCW losses put at £100m

By Mary Brazier

LOSSES for the 1,500 names on Lloyd's syndicates managed by the former PCW underwriting agency are now running at a minimum of £77 million.

The names on the syndicates yesterday learned that on top of £60 million they already owe, there is an estimated further deficit of £17 million to be met as a result of bad underwriting.

Last year, a further £40 million of losses were paid on their behalf by the syndicates' ultimate owners, Minet Holdings, and others, because money to meet them had been plundered from the syndicates. The total loss incurred by PCW syndicates since 1979 may now be as high as £130 million.

The news brought a unanimous response from 85 per cent of names who attended a meeting yesterday at the Festival Hall. They are refusing to pay this year's £60 million cash call until they have considered their own independent accountants' and lawyers' reports.

They have raised £1 million with the option to call on another £2 million for a fighting fund.

A steering committee headed by Lord Goodman has already been formed to consider the possibility of suing both Minet Holdings and PCW (now renamed the Richard Beckett Underwriting Agency).

They have asked accountants Price Waterhouse to go through the RBUA accounts and the syndicates concerned to examine how the syndicates' losses were re-insured.

Names on the three syndicates hardest hit—£115, £40, and £157—have been told to find £60 million by the end of June to meet losses on the 1984-85 season.

But even if they pay up, they could still face another £12 million in respect of underwriting carried out in 1983, and £4 million for 1984. The figures—especially the latter—were still only estimates of what the syndicates might eventually owe when the losses become payable in 1986 and 1987.

According to RBUA: "The figures understate potential profits and overstate losses."

The Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Marlborough and Lady Rotherham, among others, were invited to the mass meeting. They did not attend.

A widow from Cheltenham, Mrs Anna Marshall, said: "Lloyd's built its reputation for decency, but we are being treated shamefully. They have failed to protect the members. I stand to lose my home and I have no family to turn to. It's tearing."

Landowners will be selling farms up and down the country to help to pay the deficit. Individual losses range from an average £200,000 up to £1.2 million.

The five syndicates in trouble were managed by PCW Underwriting Agencies, a Minet subsidiary under investigation by the Department of Trade. Last summer, members narrowly escaped misfortune when they were compensated for £40 million allegedly misappropriated by former executives.

Profits buckle in package tour business

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Profit margins narrowed again last year in the highly competitive package holiday business, with seven of the 30 leading tour operators falling into losses.

Figures from the Civil Aviation Authority show that Britain's 30 leading tour firms earned a combined profit of only 3p in the pound from total revenue of almost £18 billion. A year earlier firms made 3.9p in the pound.

The CAA, which oversees the tour industry, say that while earnings from the profit-making enterprises rose in 1984, the sharp rise in losses cut back the net result.

Total losses by tour companies more than doubled to £10.7 million in 1984 from £2.9 million a year earlier in the face of large-scale over-capacity in the industry and fierce price-cutting.

The increased losses confirm earlier fears that 1984 was the worst year on record for package tour firms, with a record 30 company failures last year affecting 20,000 holidaymakers. The CAA's result for 1984 would have looked worse, but the losses suffered by firms which collapsed during the year were not included in the final tally.

There are fears that 1985 will prove even worse, with bookings down, over-capacity still apparent and a price-cutting war inevitable.

Meantime, the CAA reports that total revenue of the tour companies rose by nearly £400 million to £18 billion last year and combined profits of the industry grew by slightly under £4 million to £84 million.

After deducting the heavy losses made by some firms, the net result was a combined profit of £33.3 million against £55.3 million.

NatWest in \$1bn floating note issue

By Peter Rodgers

NatWest yesterday topped its banking rivals by launching the world's biggest-ever floating rate note issue for a private sector company, of \$1 billion.

This is \$250 million bigger than the similar issues announced recently by Lloyds and Midland, and like these it counts towards the bank's primary capital. It will be treated as preference share capital if NatWest ever gets into trouble.

Bank shares continued to rise yesterday because the stock market has been given new confidence in banking prospects as a result of the rapid injection of capital over the last couple of weeks, now

totalling 2.9 billion for Lloyds, Standard Chartered, Midland, and NatWest.

NatWest shares rose 10p to 674p. The notes are perpetual, in other words they have no redemption date, and they have provided an easy way for the banks to increase the amount of capital which backs their loan books.

NatWest's "free capital ratio" — the amount of money it has of its own to back each £100 of loans — rose from 24.50 to 28 after the completion of the new issue, which is split into two equal series. The interest rate is a quarter per cent over the London Interbank Mean for dollars, making it slightly cheaper for the bank than the Lloyds issue.

Burmah up £60 million

By Geoffrey Gibbs

More than £60 million was added to the stock market valuation of Burmah Oil yesterday as hopes of a takeover bid from the Gerald Roussea Heron Corporation sent the shares to a new peak.

Heron, which has a 4 per cent stake in the oil exploration, Castrol lubricants and specialty chemicals combine, met the Burmah directors at the end of last month to raise the possibility of a takeover.

Burmah said at the weekend that it could not see any benefit in amalgamation with Heron but added that the board would consider any offer and respond to it in the light of the company's prospects.

With Mr Roussea in the United States on business, the Heron camp was yesterday maintaining a steadfast silence about its takeover intentions. But as speculation about a bid intensified in the City, the Burmah share price surged from 258p to 300p, putting a value of over £430 million on the group.

Burmah, rescued from the brink of collapse 10 years ago, boosted profits from £65 million to £70 million during 1984 and is continuing to press ahead with a restructuring programme designed to concentrate activities on its core activities.

SE vote date set

By Peter Rodgers

The crucial vote on the future of the Stock Exchange will be on Wednesday June 5, after a meeting of all members to be held on the floor of the exchange.

The exchange yesterday published two key resolutions to be put to members which allow 100 per cent outside ownership or exchange firms and set out the way members' shares in the exchange itself will be traded.

The abolition of restrictions on outside ownership, the key to reform of the stock market, is a relatively simple ordinary resolution.

But the shareholding question, which has led to intense debate among smaller members anxious to get recompense for the opening of the exchange to outside competition and the abolition of minimum commissions, is continued in a long special resolution.

The main changes announced last week as a concession to intense pressure from smaller member firms are modifications to the shareholding requirements for smaller members, a reduction in the maximum voting power of larger members from 5 per cent to 3 per cent, and the dropping of plans to put a £2,000 ceiling on the value of shares in the exchange itself.

C. H. Beazer raising £22m to cut debts

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Brian Beazer, the ambitious chairman of C.H. Beazer (Holdings), the fast-expanding property and house-building group is asking shareholders for £22.2 million to help reduce debts after a frenetic period of growth.

Beazer's debts have risen fivefold from £9 million to about £45 million since July last year, after a series of acquisitions which have strengthened the group's position in the UK house-building market.

The £33.5 million takeover of M.P. Kent, the house-building group, last October, followed by the £26 million takeover of William Leech, the Newcastle house-builder, this year, are largely responsible for the increase in borrowings.

Beazer is offering 5.98 million new shares at 350p per share on a one-for-four basis.

Last night Beazer shares closed down 8p at 400p on the news.

Beazer has already restructured its balance sheet by converting £20 million of short-term borrowing into a medium-term bank loan, and a further £20 million into medium-term debentures by the last month of deep discounted loan stock.

Further takeovers are ruled out for the time being, while the group consolidates its position as a national house-builder.

However, Mr Beazer said yesterday that there are significant opportunities to increase profits from house-building where Beazer is building 4,500 units each year and has a land bank of 15,000 plots.

Further expansion of the group's contracting and building-related products activities are planned, Mr Beazer said.

Maryland probes savings

From Alex Brummer in Washington

State and federal officials yesterday began an examination of the books of Maryland's 102 state-chartered savings and loans following a run on Old Court, the state's second largest institution.

The move by the authorities to take control of Old Court and to check the books of other savings and loans appeared designed to head off a statewide run similar to that at Ohio in March.

The state authorities yesterday went to court and were successful in obtaining a "conservator" to take control of the savings and loan's assets. In the meantime depositors, who have been camping outside the institution over the weekend, were limited to withdrawals of \$1,000 per person.

Old Court is the second largest savings and loan in the state, with assets of \$839 million. The run on the institution followed press reports of management shake-ups and appeared to be fuelled by concern that the state-chartered savings banks in Maryland could be facing an Ohio-scale crisis.

The state governor, Mr Harry Hughes, has prepared papers which would allow a state takeover if a criminal investigation of the savings and loan's affairs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

SHARES in Clive Discount rose 8p to 65p in expectation of a tie up with the big US broker, Prudential.

Bach's deal may involve shareholding in Clive by the US firm, and a joint company to operate in the new gilt market. But a Bach spokesman refused to comment on the talks and said only: "If we are having discussions with someone I am not at liberty to discuss them. I really don't have anything to add at this point."

Clive is a medium-sized discount house, one of the firms which act as the hub of the money markets, dealing in bills. It has long been rumoured as a bid target, as one of the few remaining independent firms of any size. The two biggest, Gerrard & National and Union, have declared that they wish to remain independent.

TRAFALGAR HOUSE, the shipping and construction group, has taken a 14.9 per cent share stake in French Kler, the international contracting group, for £2.5 million.

In addition to its portfolio of investments in the sector, these include holdings in Higgs & Hill, the building group, and Haden, the lift and air conditioning group. Last night Trafalgar extended its £37 million takeover bid for Hayden, where the management have put forward a rival £55 million offer.

De Lorean trustee sues for \$1 million

By our Industrial Staff

The trustee of the failed De Lorean Motor Company has filed a suit against 10 individuals and companies seeking more than \$1 million (\$230,000) in assets that allegedly were illegally diverted from the firm.

The suit, filed in the Detroit Bankruptcy Court, claims that lawyers who successfully defended John De Lorean, the company's founder, were paid \$830,000 from the sale of De Lorean motor cars after the company began bankruptcy proceedings.

Mr De Lorean was also accused of cocaine-smuggling. The suit also claims that an additional \$288,000 from the sale of cars after the bankruptcy filing went directly to

De Lorean and his former wife, Christina Ferrare.

De Lorean filed for bankruptcy in October 1983 in order to reorganise his company under court protection from creditors. However the firm has since gone into liquidation.

The suit is the latest filed by bankruptcy trustee Mr David Allard to regain corporate assets allegedly diverted from the De Lorean Motor Company.

Mr Sheldon Toll, a lawyer for the trustee, said De Lorean did not have any motor assets that could be used to pay the estimated 600 creditors.

"The only assets of the company are those that could be recovered through these lawsuits," he said. Claims initially totalled about \$700 million, but not all had proved valid.

Finlan gets approval for \$3m Eurobond issue

By Andrew Cornelius

The dollar funds raised by the issue are to be converted into sterling to finance developments in the UK. Top of the list is a high technology and industrial development on a 15-acre site adjoining Luton Airport. Finland paid \$2 million for the site and will shortly start work on a £1 million first-phase development. Finland is also planning to develop a 100-acre site at Middleton, near the motorway in Manchester.

Mr Rhodes, the Californian property developer who last year replaced born-again Christian Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey in the driving seat at Finlan, has ambitious plans for housing developments in China. He is also seeking backing for a new scheme to build "continuing care" housing for elderly people. The aim would be to pioneer the development of flats and houses close to a nursing home, he said.

Dollar's rapid slide

By our Financial Staff

The dollar slid rapidly yesterday against European currencies, including the pound, which gained almost two cents in erratic trading to close at \$1.2537 against \$1.2362 on Friday.

The movement was a dollar phenomenon with no particular changes noted in the pound, which moved in line with other currencies.

The Financial Times 30 share index had one of its best recent rises, up 15 to 1016.9 and within sight of its all time high. Shares and gilts were helped by the money allocated by institutions to British Aerospace, much of which is now available for investment again following the oversubscription.

A report from the National Westminster Bank yesterday said bank base rates should fall to about 10 per cent by the end of this year and to 3 per cent by the end of 1986.

The intellectual freedom to focus its research more on therapeutic need than commercial gain.

Last year Wellcome, which is a leader in vaccines and the latest, anti-cancer research, earned trading profits of £100 million on sales of £806 million. The profit margin of strictly commercial drug companies like Glaxo and ICI was more than twice as high.

But this relatively lacklustre profit performance is hardly likely to dent City enthusiasm for Wellcome's share sale. All drug companies have brought a premium and the charitable status has given it

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flotation is likely to put a £1.5 billion price tag on Wellcome's entire share capital.

The company was founded 105 years ago by an American from the Mid-West, Henry Solomon Wellcome, who moved its base to Britain and was knighted in 1932. Sir Henry was a keen explorer who took particular interest in the tropical diseases afflicting the world's poor.

His trustees vowed yesterday "to retain a strong controlling interest in the Foundation." They will sell no further shares for two years, will not

reduce their holding below 50 per cent and will attempt to prevent anyone else gaining more than 10 per cent of the company.

This year the trustees will make awards from their dividend of around £20 million toward pure medical research unconnected with Wellcome's own drug development. But they believe they will have more money to donate if they do not have "all their eggs in one basket." In a veiled attack on the government's research into the trustee's chairman, Sir David Steel, said the new funds were badly needed.

The new commercial mood blowing through Wellcome may have been evident to insiders for some time. Within the last year the company has lost the services of two of the most brilliant and prolific drug researchers in the world, Sir James Black and the Nobel Prize winner, Sir John Vane. A spokesman denied there was any connection between the flotation and the resignations.

But a senior source within the company said: "Perhaps we were able to attract men like Black and Vane because all our profits did not go to wicked capitalism."

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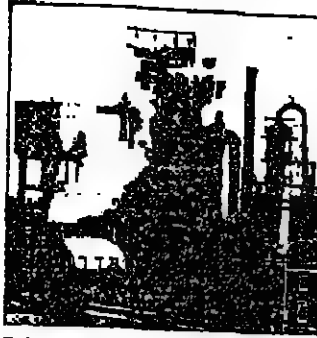
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WORKING BRIEF

What makes Arthur (and Prue Leith and John Harvey-Jones) run? JOHN TORODE looks at the lonely lives of some of Britain's public personalities

Insecurity impels the Change Makers

THE PRIVATE traumas of public personalities have, a hypnotic quality. Who is this, for example? "On a personal basis, the thing I think that hurt me more than anything else and affected my life and disturbed me for a period of time was the death of my mother. When my mother died I was 18. I'm an only child and the impact of the loss was incalculable. I cannot adequately describe my mother's utter desolation. My whole life was literally destroyed overnight. The life that I had, the atmosphere in my home, disappeared overnight. A real personal loss of immeasurable magnitude."

Now try this: "On a public platform I appear to be pretty arrogant and there's a reason for it - I'm so nervous that both my wife and my nerves I have to be well. I present my case in such a way that it appears I'm absolutely arrogant and in command of the situation; and I've been on platforms for I haven't been able to hold my notes for nerves, but nobody knows that."

And who said: "What really worries me is the cult of the individual type of thing. And when I go around speaking and I find people are coming to standing ovations in wild ecstasy - it's

very pleasant but it worries me. . . . And finally: "Ever since I was 14 I wanted to change the world. I think there's one thing that has happened now that I'm 43 years of age is that I'm more convinced than ever that I was right when I was 14. The only thing that has happened now, however, is the correctness of my case."

All right. I cheated. All four sets of quotations come from one man - Arthur Scargill and I for one will never think of that deeply individual, wounded, driven, crusading egomaniac in the way I have over the past 18 months.

What is more fascinating is that the vulnerable monster, both unique and yet typical of the 17 characters, two sociologists, Cary Cooper, and Peter Hingley, have assembled in a new study of what makes our masters run. The book, *Change Makers: The Influence on British Business and Industry*, Harper and Row £5.00.

There have been plenty of studies of captains of industry and commerce. Plenty of books which allow them to open up to the public. The *Change Makers* is unique because it focuses

upon those who changed (or are still changing) our society. It misses out on the professional managers with their technical skills, the bureaucrats and the admin men. As a result, a whole new range of characters can come into play.

It brings in union men like Clive Jenkins, who built a union from next to nothing. Joe Gormley, who reshaped the miners' union (in a way Scargill detested) and Len Murray, who sometimes seemed to dream of changing trade unionism into part of a Christian corporate state.

Change Makers can also embrace Richard Ingrams, who turned magazine publishing upside down, and Jeremy Isaacs, who yearned for a new type of television and created Channel Four. The concept also allows for women like Prue Leith and Mary Quant, as well as your actual *Change Makers*, Harvey-Jones, Parkes, Weinstein and the rest.

At which point, glance again at the Arthurian legend, as it unfolds at the top of this column. It is the Scargill story, and yet it could be the tale of any other character in the *Change Makers*.

Weinstein and Murray lose

their parents as young children and it hurts. Sarah Morrison, a director of GEC, says: "My father was killed during the war when I was 10. And he much re-married mother. . . . No, I did not want to be like her at all. . . . I was resentful, sceptical, slightly disenchanted. . . . I never got to be very happy as a child."

Peter Parker recalls his family possessions auctioned on the street outside his home when his father went bankrupt and he was packed off to France. The chairman of ICI and a founder of the SDP, John Harvey-Jones, describes himself as just dumped at boarding school, aged six. His twin died early. He is so bitter he calls himself "fatherless" though his father lived for years. "I always wanted my father's approval, which he never gave me."

Rejection, insecurity, loss. These were common childhood experiences. As a result, Prue Leith "loves being alone." Lord Longford calls himself "a loner." Scargill is "a bit of a loner," and Murray "a solitary person." Gormley, Morrison and Jonathan Miller "volunteer the word 'loner' too. Parker, a refugee from his own country, and Edwards, a South African, stress their

"outsider" status. And so do all the Jewish *Change Makers*.

Next comes both the need to prove oneself while young - and the opportunity to do so. Clive Jenkins started to build his empire as the boss of a union - albeit tiny and clapped-out - at the age of 20. Scargill was well into serious collective bargaining at that age. Edwards built up a haulage business as an undergraduate. Harvey-Jones had two destroyers sunk under him before he was 18.

All had gained from their hurt a crusading determination to change the world - not merely to get rich quick but to climb to the top of the tree.

All are workaholics but especially the women. Success means measuring yourself against yourself. The battle is with yourself. In Sarah Morrison's phrase, Jeremy Isaacs, from impoverished Glasgow, says: "I think it was very much I wanted to satisfy. I had felt I had felt I had things to prove."

Harvey-Jones is "terrified of feeling myself so I'm very critical of my own analysis. I've never been particularly interested in fighting for promotion." Joe Gormley reveals: "Of course I worry like hell. I'm worrying all

the time. . . . Harvey-Jones finally confesses: "What drives me is me. I am my own worst enemy." He contrasts himself with Lord Weinstein, the supremely confident manager of the type who has "an unshakable conviction in the rightness of what they do."

At which point the authors switch to Weinstein - who admits in turn to a constant fear of failure. "I don't like to let anybody down. That's the thing that worries me - that I might make a bad job of something or that somebody who was relying on me might find that that was unjustified."

Not every one of the Cooper-Hingley 17 had the formula life story outlined above. Some will be squirming today as they recall a happy childhood, well-integrated school days or the long slow slog up the organisational ladder. But enough of them have enough characteristics in common to suggest that the well balanced, happy-family, suburban, block-next-door might make a first rate middle manager or a union boss for the fat years, but he surely is not going to make the changes a society like ours so desperately needs. For that you need the damaged and self-driven loners.

Andrew Cornelius on a British building victory in the South Atlantic

By satellite from Surbiton to Port Stanley

THE SUCCESSFUL opening of the £276 million Mount Pleasant Airport in the Falklands - on time and virtually on budget - has provided an important boost to Britain's beleaguered construction industry.

While most contractors are down at heels suffering from the collapse in public spending in the UK, declining orders in the Middle East and payment problems in other overseas markets, Laing, Mowlem and Amey Roadstone, the companies which formed the joint venture to build the airport, are riding high.

So too are dozens of British companies which were involved in the project. Trusthouse Forte, which handled catering and security services, GEC Ruston Diesels, which installed electrical generating equipment, BICC, which carried out electrical work and MacTay, which installed pipework, were among those who grabbed a slice of both the profits and kudos associated with the Falklands project.

Mrs Thatcher was quick to spot the public relations potential for British industry. In a special message to the joint venture contractors she said that the project spoke volumes for what the British construction is capable of achieving in difficult conditions throughout the world.

Mr Oliver Whitehead, the Laing director who chaired the board of the Laing-Mowlem-ARC joint venture company, confessed before the airport opening ceremony last weekend that Laing was already using the Falklands project as a showpiece example of how the group could perform in hostile conditions.

No details of profits are being released by the consortium at this stage, but Mr Whitehead looked decidedly pleased with the outcome. The joint venture won a £1 million contract for completing the project in 18 months from starting work in the Falkland in December 1983. In addition two further contracts have been awarded worth £35 million which will keep the consortium busy at the airport site until the middle of next year.

Mr Whitehead is a non-union construction man and has been irritated by the political flak which the project has attracted. "People have asked us why we transported men and materials via Cape Town," he said. "The accusation is that we have been supporting the anti-apartheid regime there."

"Have they actually looked at the map?" he asks. "We could ship the materials through South America so what were we supposed to do?"

The logistical problems posed by the Falklands contract were the most difficult faced by the British construction group. All materials and workers had to be supplied from Britain according to the terms of the airport contract. That meant an 8,000-mile plus journey, either by sea, or by Hercules where use was restricted by the demands of the armed forces on the Falklands.

Laing, Mowlem and Amey Roadstone came together to bid for the contract largely because they had complementary skills necessary to complete the job. Laing is a huge general contractor with experience of running large camps of construction personnel.

Mowlem had invaluable marine skills which were essential to get the project off the ground. Before any construction work could begin the consortium had to obtain two ships to transport materials and build a jetty on the Falklands to unload supplies. Amey Roadstone, part of the Consolidated Goldfields group, extracted aggregates from the Falkland islands which were then used to build the airport runway.

Laing - Mowlem - Amey Roadstone (LMA) won the project in competition with two rival UK groupings. A joint venture company was established with Laing and Mowlem taking 40 per cent stakes and Amey Roadstone 20 per cent.

The project was masterminded from a newly acquired office in Surbiton, close to the PSA's Croydon office, but inconvenient for the member companies. Laing is based in Mill Hill in north London. Mowlem, in Bracknell and Amey Roadstone at Sutton Courtyard.

Eventually 150 people were employed at the office to liaise with the workforce in the Falklands, buy materials, and handle recruitment, transport and design.

Recruitment proved to be easy. Within a few months the joint venture had had 7,000 names on file from British workers keen to take 14-month contracts, worth between £10,000 and £20,000 depending upon the skills involved. A two-week paid rest period was included as part of the deal.

Once in the Falklands the joint venture employees worked 10-hour shifts for six days each week. On duty they were entertained by 40 different clubs and societies, with catering provided by THF.

Accommodation, a road from the coast to the airport site, and from the airport to Port Stanley, were all built by the contractors.

Telephone and data communication proved to be extremely effective from the very first months. The first ship to travel to the islands had a Maresat communications system. Later, British satellite communication system took over, making it possible to dial the Falklands direct from Surbiton, or Mill Hill with no restriction.

What will happen to the Falkland workers when the project winds down? Mr Whitehead said that many will be employed by the three joint venture companies on other projects providing there is work available for them.

And if Mr Whitehead and his colleagues are as successful as they hope, the Falklands project could well be the forerunner of several more for the joint venture companies, as Britain's reputation for finishing jobs on target rises in the eyes of the rest of the world.

The pressures destroying the rainforests

James Erlichman on a new campaign by Friends of the Earth

LANDLESS peasants, Americans munching their way through billions of fast food hamburgers, and some of the world's biggest corporations share common ground.

They are all blamed for a systematic attack on the tropical rainforests which span three continents of the globe.

Friends of the Earth say the peasants, the corporations, and the fast foodies must be stopped in their tracks before the world's most vital natural resource is destroyed.

This is a tall order, even for an international environmental group with the backing of a coalition of 100 environmental groups. Its UK director, Mr Jonathan Porritt (who doubles as leader of the Ecology Party) admits he has a ten-year fight on his hands. The peasants, who need land, the corporations who want profits, and the Americans who cannot live without their drive-in snacks,

will not give up their habits easily.

Being very nice people, Friends of the Earth have decided, in a major campaign launched last week, to focus their first attack on the giant corporations which strip the forests of their prized hardwoods like mahogany and teak, and convert them into furniture and decorative building materials.

Tactically this may be wise. It is a lot easier to win public support by attacking corporate greed than by harping on the unfortunate plight of impoverished people.

But is it ecologically sound? The landless peasants of Africa, the Americas and South East Asia, who are driven to slash and burn the trees in search of food and fuel, do more collective damage to the rainforests than all the multinationals put together - whether they are engaged in logging or the cattle ranching which is causing deforestation in the Amazon basin.

When pressed, Friends of the Earth admit that peasants destroy 70 per cent of the trees, and the Timber Trade Federation in the UK, not surprisingly, puts the figure nearer 90 per cent. But the crude figures themselves are more than a little misleading.

The pressure of burgeon-

ing population since the war has certainly taken its toll. But there is strong evidence that the recent activities of logging corporations has greatly exacerbated the problem. Previously, the landless poor peeled away at the edge of forests. Now they migrate deep into virgin areas along the penetrating roads bulldozed by the loggers in search of the choicest hardwoods.

The timber companies, which include Unilever, Harrogate, & Crossfield, and Ince, in the UK, insist that less than 10 per cent of the trees extracted from the tropical rainforests end up as exported hardwood. But the slash and grab "techniques" of "selective" logging, which leave behind great destruction in the loggers' wake.

Third World governments, eager for hard currency and new areas to decant their poor, must share the blame. Unilever, apparently satisfied with conditions in the Solomon Islands Government when its subsidiary began logging in 1963, in 1983 alone Unilever claims to have paid out more than \$3 million in taxes and royalties to the government. It says that some of the money went back directly into the hands of local tribesmen.

But its activities still enraged some local people on

Kolombangra Island so much that they wrecked a Unilever logging camp causing \$1 million worth of damage in 1982.

The so-called "hamburger connection" poses the latest threat to the rainforests. According to Friends of the Earth, some of the world's largest corporations, including Dow Chemical, Volkswagen, United Brands, and the Japanese trading house, Mitsui, have interests in cattle ranches which are being cut into the rainforests. Critics argue that the cattle, fed on the poor scrub, are fit only for the hamburger meat that finds its way by complete route into the fast food chains of the United States.

The grazing land is soon exhausted and more forest is razed to feed the ravenous cattle and Americans clamouring at their highway burger bars.

Enough has already been written about the ecological disasters that will plague us all if the rainforests are being burnt and felled at their present rate. Rainforests equal in land-mass to the size of the United Kingdom (200,000 square kilometres) are razed each year.

Hardened city dwellers with no love of flora and fauna may also be themselves in peril. All this tree burning could raise the

earth's temperature by 3 degrees centigrade, enough, say futurologists, to melt the polar icecaps a bit and submerge the coastal metropolises of London, Washington, Tokyo and New York.

British involvement in all this destruction is, in a direct sense, pretty tenuous. Even Unilever, Ince, and Harrogate & Crossfield, only indulge in hardwood logging as a sideline. The bulk of the UK timber trade only operates as merchants. The real European culprits are the French, Yugoslavians and Romanians who cut huge swathes through the remaining forests of Africa.

But as users, the British rank as the third largest buyers of tropical hardwood products in the world behind the Japanese and the Americans. You could say we let others do the dirty work for us while we pay for, and enjoy the spoils.

Our national fondness for tropical hardwoods - in fitted kitchens, plywood and panelled boardrooms - give Friends of the Earth the best lever it has got for focusing UK attention on the rainforest problem and the pressure group is now asking consumers to boycott tropical hardwood products until the corporations hand over 1 per cent of their profits to set up a fund which will guarantee sustainable methods of hardwood culling.

But how much can we all be made to care about trees? Friends of the Earth claims to be "the first political campaigning organisation in the world to fight for forests. And it says it is mobilising its allies in 37 countries to tackle the governments, consumers and corporations that are responsible for the destruction."

It would be well not to mock. The destruction of rainforests, like the proliferation of nuclear waste, is the kind of global nagging problem which haunts us now and may destroy a fair few of us just a little later on.

Yet Friends of the Earth seems driven by a certain amount of fraternal envy in its desire to do for trees what Greenpeace has done for seals and whales.

"It is time that we moved away from seals, whales, tigers, gorillas and other single endangered species," said Charles Secrett, who will lead the campaign from London. "The real environmental problem is the destruction of whole ecosystems."

He is undoubtedly correct. But it may take more than a messianic zeal, and fringe campaigning to put the world right within the ten year time scale that Friends of the Earth have given themselves to solve the whole planet's problem.

EDUCATION GUARDIAN

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE		CIFE		GENERAL	
<p>DAVENTRY & DISTRICT MIXED YOUTH & SPORTS CLUB NORTHAMPTONSHIRE</p> <p>APPOINTMENT OF LEADER/MANAGER (Re-advertisement)</p> <p>A qualified and experienced Youth and Community Worker, in possession of a relevant qualification, to take over the duties of the previous holder. The person appointed will be responsible for the overall management of the club and for the development of the club's activities. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Club Secretary, 10, The Square, Daventry, Northants, NN6 1JL. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>West Sussex Institute of Higher Education (Incorporating Bishop Otter College, Chichester, and Regent College, Brighton)</p> <p>LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN PRIMARY SCIENCE AND TEACHING STUDIES</p> <p>Applications are invited from qualified teachers to teach in the primary science and teaching studies departments. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, West Sussex Institute of Higher Education, PO Box 100, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UE. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>Scunthorpe Partnership Project</p> <p>Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit Scunthorpe Partnership Project The project is seeking a Project Leader to coordinate the project and to provide support to the project staff. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Project Manager, Scunthorpe Partnership Project, 10, The Square, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN16 1JL. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>	
<p>LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST Education Department</p> <p>ASSISTANT YOUTH & COMMUNITY OFFICER</p> <p>Applications are invited from persons with appropriate qualifications and experience for the post of Assistant Youth & Community Officer. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Youth & Community Officer, Waltham Forest Education Department, 10, The Square, Waltham Forest, London, E11 1JL. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>West London Institute of Higher Education</p> <p>LECTURER Grade 11 £7,245-£12,295 plus 20% OLA</p> <p>Applications are invited from qualified teachers to teach in the primary science and teaching studies departments. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, West London Institute of Higher Education, PO Box 100, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UE. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>Inner London Education Authority</p> <p>TECHNICAL OFFICER (Workshop Machinery and Pottery Equipment)</p> <p>Salary range £11,445 to £12,295 plus £1,415 London Weighting Allowance</p> <p>The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Technical Officer, Inner London Education Authority, 10, The Square, London, E11 1JL. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>	
<p>CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY EDUCATION</p> <p>FIELD TUTOR</p> <p>Applications are invited from persons with appropriate qualifications and experience for the post of Field Tutor. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Field Tutor, Cambridgeshire Community Education, 10, The Square, Cambridge, CB1 1JL. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>Inner London Education Authority</p> <p>ISLINGTON ADULT EDUCATION INSTITUTE</p> <p>HM PRISON PENTONVILLE</p> <p>Applications are invited from qualified teachers to teach in the primary science and teaching studies departments. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, Inner London Education Authority, PO Box 100, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UE. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>		<p>Cumbria College of Art and Design</p> <p>SENIOR LECTURER IN GRAPHIC DESIGN</p> <p>Applications are invited from qualified teachers to teach in the primary science and teaching studies departments. The successful candidate will be required to have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar post. Applications should be sent to the Director of Studies, Cumbria College of Art and Design, PO Box 100, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UE. Closing date: 15th May 1985.</p>	
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BOC results match best hopes

By Robin Stoddart

BOC, the industrial and medical gases supplier, will soon encounter a deceleration in the rapid advance in United States profit of recent years, but there are no worries about either the state of the economy or its effects on the group or a weaker dollar.

Results in the first half of the year to September 30 were up to best expectations in most areas, apart from carbon and carbide, and such problems as there were, including the miners' strike in Britain, were muted in their impact. Pre-tax profit jumped to £78.7 million, from £59.5 million, excluding the capital gain realised last year on the Oxford Instruments sale. Turnover was £100 million higher at £1,041 million.

Within the total, the rise in earnings from US health care products was again the outstanding feature. Both the anaesthetic pharmaceutical business and the newer home oxygen supply operations built up through acquisition, did very well, while the medical equipment section overcame the organisational problems that caused a setback a year ago.

Although there was a loss of £3.5 million in the carbon and carbide division as a result of price competition in the US steel plant industry, notably from Japan and to lesser extent in consequence of the pit stoppages in Britain, this was no worse than expected.

Cases benefited from the upturn in the capital goods industries and although the

profit gain of a fifth in this division was outsize by the rise of over half in health care earnings it still contributed twice as much. Again, the US was the lead area, following heavy past investment. The withdrawal from welding also helped. Returns in Britain were higher and South Africa's contribution was maintained in local currency terms.

Edward High Vacuum, the United Kingdom electronic engineering equipment supplier, started in the doubled profit of just over £10 million derived from miscellaneous activities. European profit mainly arising in the UK was up nearly a quarter and although it is now running well behind that made in the Americas, the fall in the Pacific total caused mainly by the fall in the Aus-

tralian dollar meant that the challenge for second place faded. Currency losses in the southern hemisphere were made up on the dollar, helped by forward sales near its peak.

The interim dividend is being lifted to 3.55p net a share, from 3.15p and the new chairman, Mr Richard Giordano, who retains executive control, says that continued real growth in distribution is the aim. Prospects for the remainder of the year and further ahead are considered to be good. They would be enhanced if the dollar fell against the German mark and Japanese yen, though Mr Giordano's £771,000 annual salary may level off.

BOC's capital investment is running at close to £400 million a year.



Richard Giordano

Equities benefit from flow back of funds

THE MARKETS

The new three-week account got off to a flying start yesterday as the British Aerospace 220 million rights issue saw C.H. Beazer slip 6p to 400p, but French Kier leapt 17p to 145p on news that Trafalgar House had bought the AMEC stake in French Kier.

Riggs and Hill, excited by Trafalgar House bid hopes, improved by 10p to 355p. Elsewhere chart support saved Evered 8p up to 226p, while United Scientific gained 12p to 185p ahead of figures due today. Spear and Jackson gained 5p to 141p, ahead of results today.

field Brick moved up 9p to 21p on comment.

John Carr, swatting bid news, went ahead by 7p to 88p, and this prompted firmness in the sector as a whole. Phoenix Timber, a speculative favourite, improved by 8p to 140p and investment demand put 14p on Tarmac at 850p. A 220 million rights issue saw C.H. Beazer slip 6p to 400p, but French Kier leapt 17p to 145p on news that Trafalgar House had bought the AMEC stake in French Kier.

Riggs and Hill, excited by Trafalgar House bid hopes, improved by 10p to 355p. Elsewhere chart support saved Evered 8p up to 226p, while United Scientific gained 12p to 185p ahead of figures due today. Spear and Jackson gained 5p to 141p, ahead of results today.

Ward White, Textiles saw Textured Jersey strengthen 3p to 88p thanks to comment in the sector. General Accident, which reports quarterly figures today, rose 15p to 615p, and brokers had C.E. Heath 22p better at 580p awaiting news of the merger with Hogg Robinson. Hogg Robinson added 15p to 296p.

Main changes: British Aerospace 436p, up 13p; BOC 310p, up 4p; Grand Met 310p, up 15p; Bunnings 300p, up 15p; Unilever 1,170p, up 15p; British Telecom 136p, up 5p; Debenhams 328p, up 10p; French Kier 145p, up 17p.

Stock Exchange turnover for Friday, May 10, was: 22,246, value, 254,457 million.

Tokyo: Stocks gained in moderate trading. They ran out of energy after an initial spurt. Securities companies and investors were eager for a good showing to honour new exchange facilities, a broker said. Shares in property, railways, financial services and electrical machinery were singled out by buyers. Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 12,541.53 (12,537.81).

Hong Kong: Prices rose in active trading, led by a rally among banking equities which had been lagging recently. Late-session activity took the market back to the level of the previous day. Utility shares were strongly higher, but other sectors were less so. Hang Seng index: 1,628.29 (1,613.36).

Frankfurt: Shares previewed again reached record highs as the dollar fell and hopes grew that a narrower US government spending deficit in 1984 will allow interest rates to fall. The Commerzbank index finished at 1,251.2, up 6.7 points from readings of 1,244.5 last Thursday and Friday, which were the previous record high readings.

Paris: Share prices closed firmer across the board in active trading and recovered evidence that domestic interest rates are coming down.

Money markets: Period rates were about 1-16 per cent easier where changed but the market continued to lack incentive and apart from the odd little flurry of buying, overall trade was modest.

COMPANY BRIEFING

Unilever up 13pc in first quarter

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch foods and detergents combine, yesterday produced a 13 per cent rise in first quarter profits to £218 million on sales 24 per cent higher at £4.7 billion.

Brooke Bond, the tea and timber group acquired last year, was responsible for a third of the sales increase and the majority (10 per cent) of profits growth.

Unilever did well in Europe with profits up 14 per cent on the same quarter of last year, even though the EEC cheap butter regime hurt the combine's margarine earnings.

But the mega-battle with Procter & Gamble for a bigger share of the US toiletries and detergents market continues to sap Unilever's American earnings. Although sales in the US continued to climb the results "were significantly lower due to continued planned heavy investment to build both volume and market share in detergents and foods."

Unilever share closed 15p higher in London at 1170p.

Readicut at Mach 2

PROVIDING special carpets for Concorde and Marks & Spencer is a far cry from the old mainstay of Readicut's business, rag-kits for home hobbyists.

The switch to being a specialist textiles group has been decisive and is almost complete (rag kits are just 7 per cent of turnover). Profits for 1984-85 climbed from £2.7 million to £4.5 million thanks to economies and a return to profit by two divisions.

More of the same, coupled with bigger margins on specialist carpets, should see profits of £5.5 million this year while with gearing down from 41 per cent to 37 per cent the group is now ready to make selective acquisitions. This, plus the expansion by M & S at both its store chain and its range of rugs for sale, might really push profits ahead in future years.

Meanwhile, Professor Roland Smith, who has been chairman for the past year, is pleased that management controls are tough enough to produce a 10 per cent rise in trading profits despite higher raw material costs.

The dividend is up from 1.2p to 1.45p and the chair-



man thinks that the 3.7 times cover is about right.

Rug kits returned to profitability in the second half of the year and are going to stay that way, while the special carpets business would have made £500,000 more but for disputes in the motor industry. Yarns and Fibres turned a loss of £1 million into a profit of £400,000 while plasticisers turned a £1 million turnaround to a profit.

Handicrafts more than halved its loss to £222,000 and should be profitable this year, while services raised its profit from £240,000 to £770,000.

er by the Japanese firm in all markets outside Japan.

Glaxo is already a world leader in antibiotics but the UK company has decided to trade its marketing muscle in the West to get a stake in Tanabe's new cephalosporin which is still code named LA 56001. A joint venture will market the drug through Nippon Glaxo, an associate company of the UK group. The new drug is expected to enter clinical trials in several countries later this year and could reach the market by the end of 1987.

DEENHAMS shares rose to a new peak on the stock market yesterday on continued hopes that a takeover bid will soon be made for the department stores. The company's gain of 10p lifted the share price to 328p at which level the business is valued at some £460 million. The latest rise follows weekend comments from the department store chairman, Mr Robert Thornton, that the directors would respond to an unwelcome bid by launching a management buyout. Harris Queensway, Burton, and Habitat Mothercare, have all been tipped as likely bidders for the company.

GRA sells third track

GRA, the greyhound racing and property company, has struck an \$8.5 million deal to sell part of its White City (Manchester) greyhound track to a supermarket group, Dee Corporation. The deal is conditional on Dee's winning planning permission for the site to be redeveloped as a supermarket with associated car parking.

The sale is the latest in a series of moves by GRA to sell its racetracks to supermarket companies. Mr Ildore Kerman, GRA's chairman, has this year already struck two similar deals. J. Sainsbury paid \$10.5 million for the Harring-

racetrack, and Dee has agreed to pay £11 million for GRA's stadium site in Slough.

Dee, which runs the Gateway and Key Markets stores, has paid GRA a £35,000 deposit for the Manchester track. A further £250,000 will be paid when planning permission is granted, with the balance payable within 30 months of completion of the redevelopment.

The assets of the White City Manchester stadium are held in GRA's books at £200,000.

Diploma up slightly

Two of the industries which Diploma Group specialises in are down at the moment and one is up, hence the slight gain in profits from £7.6 million to £7.9 million in the half year to March 31. This is in line with City estimates which see the group ending the year with profits of between £18.2 million and £17 million, against the £18.3 million for 1983-84.

Mr Christopher Thomas, chairman, emphasises that the second half of last year saw a gain from "quite abnormal" demand for electronic components which will not be repeated. "He feels that the second-half profit cannot be assessed because of uncertainty over the market for semi-conductors" to which we can only react.

Meanwhile electronic components and building components are at an unfavourable stage in their respective trading cycles and only special steels is enjoying a good run.

Looking at the crucial market for semi-conductors, Mr Thomas says that prices and margins are down because of the current oversupply but "we would appear to be retaining, and probably gaining, market share." The group gained new franchises which will help in the longer term.

Brewer up 14.5pc

Blackburn brewer Matthew Brown yesterday reaffirmed its determination to remain independent as it served up a 14.5 per cent rise in profits for the first half of the current financial year.

In its interim statement the chairman, Mr Patrick Townsend, said the board continued to believe that the £100 million takeover bid from Scottish and Newcastle, currently the subject of a Monopolies Commission investigation, was not in the interest of shareholders, employees or customers.

Glaxo joint venture

The growing power of the Japanese pharmaceuticals industry was underlined again yesterday when Glaxo, the UK's most profitable drug company, announced that it is forming a 50-50 joint venture company with Tanabe Seiyaku of Osaka.

The joint venture, known as Tanabe-Glaxo, will direct the development and eventual launch of a new injectable cephalosporin antibiotic discov-

Old Peculier brew, is now said to be poised for profitable growth.

powerful Old Peculier brew, is now said to be poised for profitable growth.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

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Further details and application

Labour criticises the linking of Saturday's two soccer tragedies as investigation by High Court judge is announced

Warnings: Brittan being attacked over 'offensive' inquiry used to gain roof grant

Continued from page one

have been interviewed by police and their evidence has been conflicting. Some have said they saw a smoke that smoke flares had been used in the ground but they would not talk about the crucial G-section of the stand where the fire began.

The police said yesterday that there were still 55 people who were officially reported missing in Bradford on Saturday and they had every reason to believe that all those people had gone to the match. They were fairly certain that 25 people perished in the fire and two others have since died in hospital.

Bradford District Council yesterday gave details of a disaster appeal fund which has now reached £50,000 from the horror newspaper.

The council is setting up a special service to help any bereaved people and in particular those who have been through what the council referred to as the highly emotional time when the identification of the dead has been confirmed.

The Football League yesterday gave permission for Bradford City and Lincoln City to replay the abandoned match at Bradford Northern's Rugby League ground next Sunday. The proceeds will go to the Lord Mayor's disaster fund.

Leeds Utd and Huddersfield Town have offered their grounds to Bradford for matches next season if Valley Parade is not ready.

Chauffeur 'stole' £104,088

A chauffeur, Anthony Howard, aged 35, of Harrogate, north-west London, yesterday appeared at Basingstoke magistrates' court charged with stealing £104,088 worth of property belonging to Mrs Soraya Khoshogori.

Howard denies all the 56 charges, which include allegations that he stole a £13,000 ermine-trimmed mink coat, a Persian carpet worth £10,000, 37 chairs, 15 tables, six beds, a shower unit, a lavatory seat, kitchen fittings, and a kitchen sink.

Poison charge

A young mother accused of poisoning her two-month-old baby boy was remanded in custody for a week at Hove Magistrates' court yesterday. The 20-year-old housewife, of Fulham, London, is charged with administering poison to the baby at her home on May 11, so as to endanger his life.

By Colin Brown, Political Reporter

The Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, was strongly criticised in the Commons yesterday when he announced a single inquiry into the 53 deaths at Bradford and the death of a boy who was crushed under a wall after crowd violence at Birmingham.

The shadow home secretary, Mr. Gerald Kaufman, said the decision to order a joint inquiry was "insensitive and in the worst possible taste."

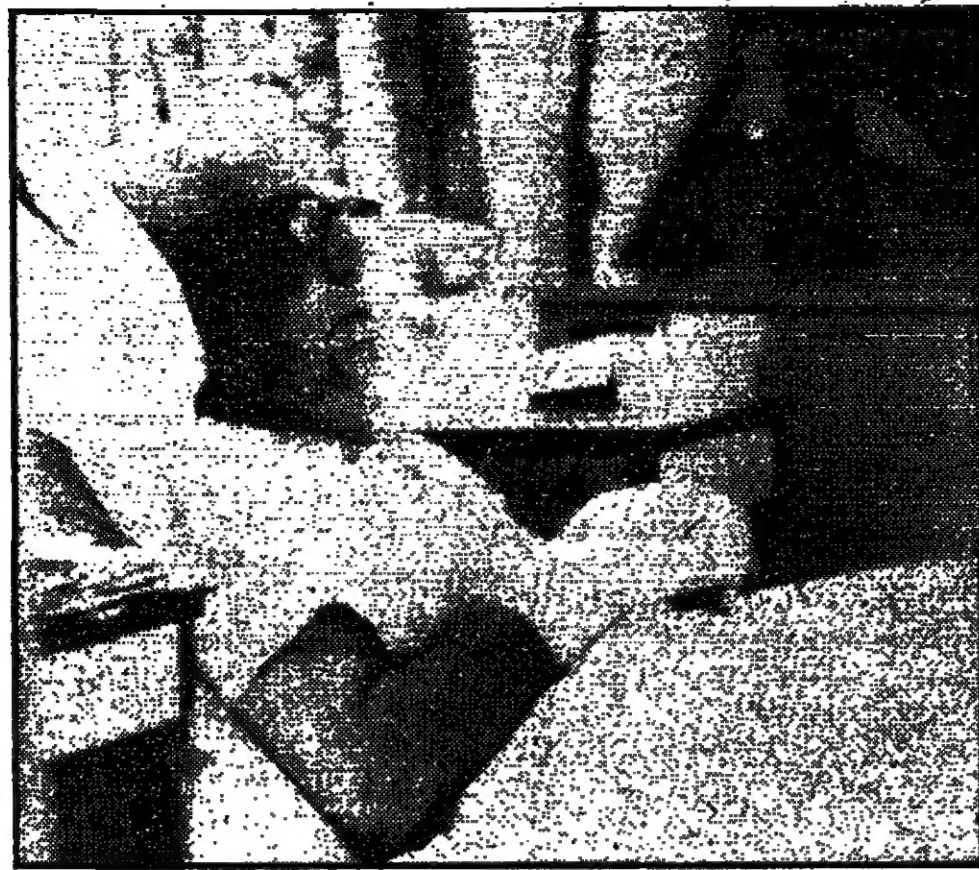
It would be deeply offensive to the bereaved and deeply offensive to the victims, the stricken cities and the nation, he said.

Mr Brittan announced to the Commons that a High Court judge, Sir Oliver Popplewell, a former leading member of the C.I.B., is to investigate the fire at Bradford and the crowd disturbances at Birmingham.

There were pitch invasions during the match against Leeds United, and 125 arrests. Ninety-six police officers required medical treatment more than 90 spectators were injured.

Mr Brittan insisted that the inquiry would be a full public inquiry in the Bradford blaze. But his report is likely to be published, at least in part.

The inquiry's terms of reference announced by Mr Brittan



An unnamed casualty of the fire asleep in St Luke's Hospital, Bradford, yesterday. Right: Mr. Tomi Jackson, aged 80, after having his burns treated

But most of his inquiry will be in private, despite repeated demands by Labour MPs for a full public inquiry in the Bradford blaze. But his report is likely to be published, at least in part.

are the events at both grounds and the operation of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, 1975.

Mr Brittan said that he would be extending the act to cover the third and fourth divisions of the Football League. The inquiry is to recommend

what, if any, further steps should be taken to improve crowd safety and crowd control at sports grounds.

Mr Brittan also faced demands to reconsider the Government's request that more grounds install perimeter fencing. MPs said that more people

would have died at Bradford if the fans had not been able to escape on to the field.

But Mr Brittan said that perimeter fences were not inconsistent with safety. The code covering safety in grounds under the act required clubs installing fences to look at

safety as a whole in addition to the control of spectators.

The Popplewell inquiry will be able to look into other crowd disturbances at grounds including the Luton-Millwall cup match which led to the Prime Minister's meeting at Downing Street with football

officials to discuss action against football violence. The Football Association report is due to be made to the Prime Minister within the next week.

After that match, Luton were ordered by the FA to install a perimeter fence.

The shadow sports minister, Mr. Denis Howell, Labour MP for Birmingham, Small Heath, was at the Birmingham City match against Leeds, also protested at the joint inquiry.

He said that the Home Secretary was facing a dilemma between insisting on perimeter fences and seeking safety for fans in emergencies. There should be evacuation points provided to avoid fire traps.

Mr. Howell, the Labour minister who introduced the 1975 act, urged the Football League to consider making clubs with bad records accept all ticket matches when they played away and urged a ban on coaches stopping to pick up or drop off supporters.

The parliamentary spokesman for the Police Federation, Mr. Eddon Griffiths, called for police powers to ban football matches which might breach public order.

Mr. Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Exeter, called on the inquiry to consider recommending powers to councils to close football grounds until they came up to the necessary standards.

The Home Secretary said that the inquiry should proceed with all possible speed but he would welcome any interim report. On Thursday Mr Brittan will announce his recommendations for the reform of the Public Order Act, which he made clear would include further measures to combat football hooliganism.

24-hour lawyer scheme 'will miss starting date'

By Malcolm Deas

A national 24-hour duty solicitor scheme for suspects held in police stations will not be ready in time to coincide with police powers which come into effect next January.

The service, designed to balance the new police powers, was intended to apply to all 3,000 police stations.

About 1.5 million people are arrested and taken to police stations every year. An estimated 20 per cent would want legal advice. About 2 per cent receive it.

Mr. Les Bridge, a research consultant commissioned by the Law Society to organise three pilot schemes to test demand for the service, yesterday blamed the government for the delays.

He thought the schemes would start in large regional cities but it was already too late to organise it in rural areas and he raised doubts about whether the present proposals would ever be effective in London.

Mr. Bridge, who was appointed by the Lord Chancellor's Department to the Law Society's committee which will

be responsible for the scheme's administration, accused the department of a lack of commitment.

He referred to long delays in obtaining approval for the 34,000 pilot schemes. The one in London will not even start until September.

The Lord Chancellor's Department accepted yesterday that the scheme might not be working throughout the country on January 1 but rejected any suggestion of unfounded delay or lack of commitment.

There are obviously different solutions which need to be studied."

The cost will be much higher than the estimates made by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

It suggested \$5 million, but Mr. Bridge's report on the first two pilot schemes suggests that it could be £20 million.

The Law Society is still negotiating with the Lord Chancellor's Department on the fees which solicitors should receive for turning out in the middle of the night. At present solicitors receive £27 an hour for legal aid work and £17 an hour for travel.

About 90 per cent of calls to solicitors in the Birmingham pilot scheme were out of office hours, Mr. Bridge said that even if solicitors received a reasonable premium for out of office hours calls he had doubts about the scheme working in London.

Most London solicitors lived a long way from their offices. They would need to get to the police station relatively quickly because, under the 1984 Police Act, people who were detained had to have their case reviewed at regular intervals.

Two alternatives would be to contract out the work to a set number of legal firms in a particular area or to have a full-time service.

Strike averted

A strike over 600 redundancies at the Scott Lithgow shipyard at Greenock, near Glasgow, was averted last night when management and unions said in a joint statement that negotiations had been successful.

How family vote went to Paisley

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Politics in Northern Ireland is a serious business, with traditional and tribal instruction handed down from parents to their children at the fireside.

However, the old adage "vote early, vote often" — which applies to the Ulster practice of fraudulent polling — was given a new twist yesterday.

It appears that electoral officers first suspected that something was wrong when they noticed that one of two people armed with a polling card and requesting ballot papers for the European election could barely see over their hands.

The polling station, pointed out to the larger, Mrs Elizabeth Ash, that the exercise of democratic voting rights did not extend to seven-year-old children like her daughter, Pauline. The fact that she had inadvertently been issued with a polling card was neither here nor there. It would be an offence for the child to vote.

Yesterday, a Belfast magistrate's court, a solicitor for Mrs Ash, aged 31, of East Belfast, described the incident as a prank. The magistrate, Mr. Basil McIlwain, described it as stupid and fined her £10.

Afterwards, Mrs. Ash said she was surprised to be brought to court. "I don't really go in for politics. I just let her go ahead," she said.

She emerged in court that Pauline had placed her X alongside the name of perhaps the best known of the candidates, the Rev Ian Paisley.

He topped the Euro poll in last June's election and was, presumably his majority of 78,532 over Mr. John Hume, of the SDLP will now have to be amended by one.

Kidney transplant surgeon 'had no knowledge of trade'

By Andrew Vettesh, Medical Correspondent

The surgeon at the centre of the row over the international trade in live human kidneys, said last night that he had been duped. But he rejected calls for laws to ban the sale of human organs.

Mr. Michael Bewick, a consultant at Guy's Hospital, London, transplanted a kidney from Mr. Akhtar Mohammed Hamed to Mr. Saqib Najam at the private Devonshire Hospital, London, last Friday without knowing that Mr. Hamed was being paid a reported £2,000.

"We knew the donor was not as closely related as normal, and this was the first time I have operated on someone who was not closely related," he said.

"We knew money was going to change hands. I would not have allowed the operation to go ahead."

The president of the International Transplantation Society, Professor Peter Morris, of Oxford, called yesterday for laws to ban the sale of organs for transplant. Professor Morris and the head of the British society, Mr. Robert Sells, of Liverpool, will meet the junior health minister, Mr. John Patten, later this month to discuss legislation.

Doctors have been warned that they will be expelled from countries and the Far East as well as the Indian sub-continent.

Mr. Bewick was one of four surgeons named last Sunday by the Mail on Sunday newspaper as being involved in the trade in kidney transplants. The others are Mr. Maurice Slapak, a co-director of the Wessex Transplant unit, Mr. Christopher Wallace of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and Mr. Oswald Fernando, director of the transplant unit at the Royal Free Hospital, London.

Mr. Bewick said last night: "We checked whether the donor had arrived of his own free will. The answer was that he didn't arrive in 'bedouin' attire. The air ticket was bought for him. It was a return. He could have gone back to Lahore any time he liked."

"On Wednesday we re-examined the donor because we realised he wasn't quite as related as had been suggested and we wanted to make sure no money was changing hands. The answer was no, and that he was a long-standing friend of the recipient and he wanted to help."

"We took that with a slight pinch of salt. But as far as we could see there was no commercial interest and no duress. It was a mistake. We need some qualified person who could act as an interpreter. But there is no foolproof system. It comes down to whether you can trust the individuals in front of you."

Mr. Bewick's patients came from Pakistan.

Kidney transplants are also performed regularly at the Clementine Churchill Hospital, Harrow, north-west London, a hospital run by American Medical International. Some 60 transplants are carried out every year there, with patients coming from Iran, the Arab countries and the Far East as well as the Indian sub-continent.

Thatcher's camp derides Pym group

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

The dissident Conservative Centre Forward group was the object of derision last night from Downing Street and the Prime Minister's loyalists on the eve of its launch by Mr. Francis Pym in Oxford today.

It was said on Mrs Thatcher's behalf that she saw nothing new in the grouping, which is supported mainly by traditional wets, and it was

put about by official sources that she expected little real opposition from it.

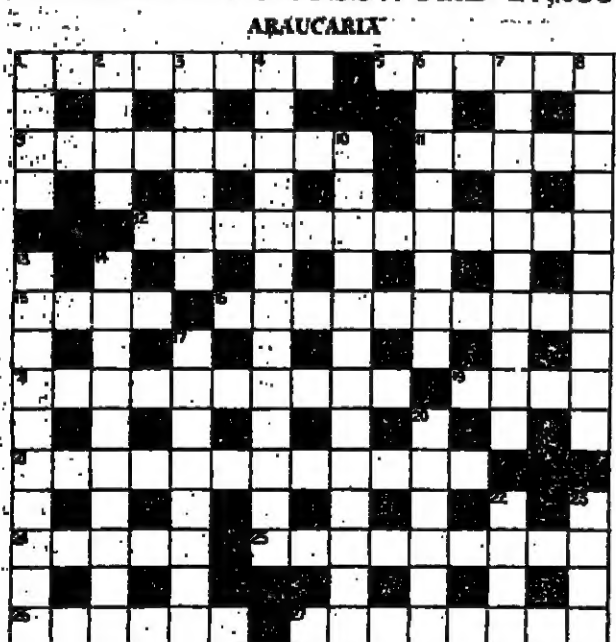
Mr. Pym, his steering committee and his supporters were aware last night that they will have to mount an effective Commons rebellion within a few weeks if they are to establish their credentials.

It was expected among members or supporters of some of whom have still not issued their names publicly, that the first test will come when the

green paper on the social security reviews by Mr. Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, is published at the beginning of next month.

Any significant change in the position of those who receive supplementary benefit will provoke a rebellion by the wets and Mr. Pym's group could be the focus for it. If not, he will face criticism as the leader of an organisation which cannot seriously challenge policy.

GUARDIAN CROSSWORD 17,235



ACROSS

- 1 Prowl about to get diamonds in the sale, maybe (3,5).
- 2 Sibilant which means "Shut up!" (4,2).
- 3 Flow of 16 experienced as wine (9).
- 4 Material for American city on "Look North" (5).
- 5 Enter pupil, individual, by taxi — home pupil — having no bearing on the matter (12).
- 6 Piece of land for sea creature (4).
- 7 Fat, fat, and infinitely rich, perhaps, requiring control (3,7).
- 8 Reads one tale before the court (10).
- 9 The lady that's one with Reagan? (4).

DOWN

- 1 Come first after pig before (4).
- 2 Cautious old china? (4).
- 3 Sailor's estimate (5).
- 4 Colour and light of 1 across, coming last when... (5,3,5).
- 5 river variety of til come (4,4).
- 6 far in front of spring of beer? (4,6).
- 7 Creep about on pole: intent destroyed by decimation (3,4).
- 8 Groups of troops with brains? (8,5).
- 9 Look out for rising ships, likely to be near at hand? (5,5).
- 10 Possible clue for "dingo" is owl (10).
- 11 Sack old conductor before 19 (2,8).
- 12 Product of old materials has pierced lady's back (6).
- 13 22. Sorts of transport after 6 (4,4).

Solution tomorrow

US hit squads liquidated

Continued from page one

effort. But the incoming chairman was not Mr. McNamara's successor, Senator Patrick Leahy, also a Democrat, confirmed yesterday that he had not known about it but was now making inquiries.

The practical and political problems of liaisons with local and unreliable proxies do not end there. Coincidentally, yesterday, the FBI announced that it had foiled a plot by Sikh extremists in the US to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, during his visit to the US next month. This did not prevent Indian reporters attempting to link

the Beirut revelations with terror bombings in India and suggesting that the US might be fuelling the Sikhs.

The impression here is that President Reagan's original decision was the result of pressure from Mr. Shultz and the National Security Adviser, Mr. Robert McFarlane.

Since their retreat in Lebanon, however, claims have again been advanced that the US now has "the specific forces and capabilities we need to carry out operations we need against terrorist groups," according to Mr. McFarlane and the Director of the CIA, Mr. William Casey.

THE WEATHER

Showers, some sun

A COMPLEX area of low pressure covers the British Isles with a trough moving northwards over Scotland and Northern Ireland.

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AROUND THE WORLD

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TEMPERATURES

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